

The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD

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Gen. Howard says:

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F. NELSON GLOVER, Pastor First Baptist Church.

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SOUTH BETHLEHEM, PENN., June 9, 1894.
I bought one of your Mediators last fall for Catarrh. It benefited me so much; I had lost my hearing, and got it back by the use of your Mediator. Respectfully, W. H. FUHR, 619 Cherokee St.

Mayor's Office,

SILVERTON, COLO., Aug. 9, 1893.

Your Mediator has helped me wonderfully. I have tried a great many, but yours is the most simple and does its work better than any I ever tried; in fact it is a blessing to the sufferer from Catarrh. I recommend this unsolicited by you.
Yours respectfully, CHAS. H. H. KRAMER, Mayor.

OFFICE OF THE NORTHWESTERN MAIL,

MADISON, WIS., Nov. 27, 1894.

Two years ago I procured "Ramey's Mediator" for my wife to use, especially for Hay Fever and for Hay Fever and Asthma. She has used it with great success. Also for breaking up colds. She would not be without it for any price. I have also used it for Catarrhal affliction with success. I consider it valuable.
H. A. MINER, Editor.

Hay Fever. What a Prominent Clergyman says:

CHICAGO, ILL., Jan. 14, 1892.

I have used Ramey's Mediator and Compound Inhalant for Hay Fever and found relief. I should think such a remedy would be valuable for colds and catarrh. REV. H. W. THOMAS, People's Church.

Gov. Chase says:

EXECUTIVE DEP'T, INDIANAPOLIS, IND.,

Dec. 22, 1892.

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Very respectfully, IRA B. CHASE.

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It will doubtless be of interest to the better class of schools and educational institutions generally to know that in connection with the Business and Advertising Department of THE LITERARY DIGEST there will be facilities for furnishing to its readers, free of cost, printed matter, catalogues, and such general information as may be desired regarding any schools or academy.

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

MR. CLEVELAND AS A POLITICAL LEADER.

THE first half of President Cleveland's second term was completed in the early part of the present month. We have seen the verdict of the Press on the Democratic Congress, but that verdict does not necessarily apply to Mr. Cleveland, who has differed with the majority of his own party, as represented in Congress, on many important questions. It is, therefore, interesting to know what the Press thinks of Mr. Cleveland's responsibility for the work of the Democratic Congress as well as of his own present standing as a statesman and executive. We present selections from a number of representative journals:

President Cleveland Equally Responsible with Congress.—“Never did a party assume more absolute power, with a clearer field before it, than did the Democracy two years ago. Never was a party dismissed from public service in circumstances of greater ignominy and detestation than is the Democracy to-day. As for the blame of it, who shall tell where it is to be placed? The President charges it against the Congress which he has ‘had on his hands,’ and a large faction in that Congress charge it against the pompous autocrat who has striven to exalt his personal policy above the Constitution itself. At one time, with a certain pig-headed rightness, the President has sought Republican aid in checking the madness of the ‘wild horses’ at the Cap-

itol. At another, the least bad element of the Democracy in Congress has looked to the same source for aid in thwarting the White House ‘policy of infamy.’ President and Cabinet, Senators and Representatives, all are tarred with the same stick. A great throng of the latter now step down and out of the Capitol amid the Nation's mingled feelings of relief and contempt. The former, by virtue of the quadrennium, remains to vex the land for two years more. Upon them both alike comes to-day the Nation's sternest condemnation: ‘Ye are all unprofitable servants.’”—*The Tribune (Rep.)*, New York.

A Failure as a Politician, but a Success as a Statesman.—“When Mr. Cleveland entered upon his duties he had at once to meet a critical state of things. The silver legislation enacted by the Republicans was bearing its fruit. The confidence of the business community was seriously disturbed. The repeal of the Silver-Purchase Law had become a matter of immediate necessity. In our opinion it would have been wiser had the President called a special session of Congress without delay. He put off the call, perhaps because he distrusted the temper of Congress as to the required action until it should feel the full pressure of the stress of circumstances. Meanwhile he had to determine upon the manner in which he himself would endeavor to make his influence in Congress felt. Was he to propitiate Senators and Representatives in the old spoils fashion by yielding to their demands for patronage? Or was he to rely upon the enlightened public opinion of the country to sustain him, and thus to coerce Congress to do its duty, he himself boldly proclaiming his own creed that the offices of the Government should be treated, not as patronage, but as public trusts, with a sole view to the public good? Mr. Cleveland thought that he could do both things at the same time; and this was the most serious mistake of his administration. . . . He did not win any reliable support among the spoils politicians, because he did not give them enough. And because he gave them too much, he lost much of the support of that public opinion by which he might have overawed and coerced the spoils politicians. His influence with Congress dwindled from day to day. He became almost completely isolated. It seemed to be a sportive amusement to his Democratic enemies to spite him, and hardly any President has been so feebly defended by his few friends.

“The sterling qualities of Mr. Cleveland's character stood forth most strikingly when he had occasion to act upon his own responsibility. His conduct of foreign affairs has, as to all questions of importance, been patriotic, fair, and courageous. His position with regard to the Hawaiian affair, although somewhat marred by a certain clumsiness of management, was based upon principles of justice and good faith, from which the country cannot depart without dishonor and incalculable harm to its best interests. Although, when engrossed with other objects, he has done, and permitted to be done, many things flagrantly at war with the principles of civil-service reform, he has at least materially extended the domain of the civil-service rules, and may be expected to extend it still much farther. When the country was threatened by internal disorders he quelled the trouble with a promptness and vigor extorting admiration even from his political foes. But nothing entitles him more to the gratitude of the American people than the intrepid determination with which he went to the utmost of his power to maintain the financial honor and safety of the republic. He presents a magnificent spectacle as he stands between his country and disgrace, almost single-handed and alone, a majority of his own party against him, both Houses of Congress against him, but he himself undaunted and unmoved by the frenzied outcries of hostile interests and selfish politicians; and so he will stand in the history of this country, a grand, heroic, inspiring example, when the pack of little vilifiers who now snarl and bark at his heels about the profit bankers are gaining out of a contract made under duress—the Bryans and the

Blands and the Lodges and the Chandlers and that ilk—are buried and forgotten."—*Harper's Weekly (Ind.)*, New York.

Turned His Back on Popular Demands.—"When Mr. Cleveland took his seat, those who had aided to bring about the triumph of the organization were hopeful and happy. They looked forward to a long and brilliant career for the time-honored party that had been engaged for thirty years in winning its way back into the confidence and esteem of the masses, and which had now been placed in complete control of the Government.

"Two short years have passed, and the party has now gone into partial eclipse again. The people have driven the Democratic majority out of the House, and the party is no longer able to control legislation. With a Republican majority in the House, and a President who has absolutely turned his back on every reform that the people have at heart, the outlook is far from promising. . . .

"The Tariff Bill passed by the Democratic Congress teems with protection, and the people are taxed to increase the profits of the sugar trust.

"The silver pledge has been utterly repudiated. The Democratic Congress has not only refused to restore silver, but has adopted the Republican scheme to cheapen it and to enhance the value of the gold in the hands of the millionaire bankers, money-sharks, and gold gamblers. The Republican leaders tried to repeal the Sherman Law unconditionally the month before the Democratic Administration was inaugurated. They failed, and then the Democrats were called on by the President to take up this piece of Republican legislation and push it through. This they did, and the result has been that the prices of all commodities produced in this country have fallen lower than they were before. . . .

"To sum up in a dozen words, the Administration in two years, led by Mr. Cleveland, has repudiated every important pledge made to the people."—*The Constitution (Dem.)*, Atlanta.

Owned by the Money Power.—"We insist that the laws and policies forced upon the country by a Democratic President and Congress must be regarded as the true cause of the misfortunes and losses which have followed 'the change' decreed at the polls in 1892, as naturally as the spark fly upward.

"First, even before the Government was turned over to its new masters, came the New York bankers' conspiracy against industry and property through the repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman Law. That was the initial step in the scheme of the money power which owned and controlled President Cleveland to fasten the single gold standard upon this country. . . .

"A tariff for revenue only was the next panacea presented by a Democratic Congress and President. It has been in operation now for five months, and not a single promise made in its behalf by the Cleveland, Wilsons, Carlises, and Harrises has been fulfilled. It has disorganized and demoralized our home industries, while it has only made a reduction of one half of one per cent. in duties on imports. It has increased rather than lessened the deficit in the Treasury. It has overthrown the Blaine policy of reciprocity which promised so much for our trade with Mexico, Central and South America, and it has forced Europe into a war of retaliation against our meat products and live stock.

"What will be the history of the last half of President Cleveland's last term?

"Fortunately for the country it will be no longer possible for him to force his brutal, ignorant, and obstinate policies upon Congress. The Democrats will be in a minority in both Houses of the next Congress, and it is probable that another generation will pass away before they will be given another opportunity to write a page of Federal legislation.

"But unfortunately the Republicans will not be able to restore any of the policies under which the nation made such marvelous progress in prosperity from 1861 till 1893. During the coming two years the veto power stands in the way, and the people must wait with what patience they can command until another Presidential election gives them the opportunity to restore control of the Government to the hands of the party that saved its life and enlarged its glory and greatness under Lincoln and Grant and Hayes and Garfield and Arthur and Harrison."—*The Republican (Rep.)*, Denver.

The Present Verdict Will Not Stand.—"To-day an impression prevails that on an appeal to the country the Administration

would be buried under a million adverse majority. Its party is broken in pieces, and from the heights of brilliant promise it appears to have fallen to the depths of disappointment and disaster.

"Is this to stand as the final judgment of the country on the second Cleveland Administration? Men judge of actions by events. 'Had I miscarried I had been a villain.' Mr. Cleveland's plans have not all carried, and hence the howling mob of croakers at his heels. Will history accept their verdict? Let no man who values his reputation as a prophet conclude as much. No President since the time of Lincoln has taken office in the face of so many difficulties and perplexities as surrounded Mr. Cleveland at the beginning of his second term. The party legislated out of office had tinkered the currency up to the point of national bankruptcy. By tariffs and depreciated monetary issues and reckless expenditures, it had fostered extravagance and speculative ventures until the whole flimsy structure was ready to fall down on its narrow and insecure basis. The surplus in the Treasury had been squandered. The gold reserve was rapidly falling. And a month before the new Executive took hold preparations were being made to print bonds on which to borrow money.

"The storm which had been brewing for three years previously broke over the country at an early day, as it most certainly would have broken had the Harrison Administration been continued; and in the midst of the whirlwind of liquidation, falling values, and bankruptcy, in the midst of the paying the penalty of vicious and temporizing fiscal legislation, the President has stood ever since and struggled—it seems so far to be vainly—to win order out of chaos, to plant the currency on a sounder basis, and to bring the nation back to less ambitious but more safe and healthful ways.

"It is too early to say that failure will crown his attempt along this present main line of effort. His position is not dissimilar to that of Lincoln at the end of the first half of his first term of office. Do those of the present generation remember how, in the dark Winter of 1862-63, after two years of the disappointing results of war, the President was assailed by the anti-slavery extremists for not going faster, by others for going too fast, by others for disregarding the Constitution, and by all of little light and faith for a general record of disappointment and failure? But that was the time when Lincoln's true greatness shone out the brightest—when he grasped the rudder more firmly and held the ship true to the course which the light, as God had given him to see the light, had marked out to him. And where the croaking had written 'failure,' history now records a very different verdict.

"Mr. Cleveland has made mistakes. It was a blunder probably not to have called Congress in extra session after his inauguration to revise the Tariff. His party was united on that issue. It was all at sea on the money issue. Early revision would not have stayed the panic, but it would have saved business thereafter a long time of doubt and uncertainty, and it would have secured a more harmonious and satisfactory revision. But he waited, and the money question was thrust upon him. It broke his party into pieces and made it an unmanageable mob in Congress when the great ends of the Administration most sorely needed congressional support.

"Could this result have been averted without abandonment of the President's high purposes? 'Politics,' said Burke, 'ought to be adjusted not to human reasonings, but to human nature, of which the reason is but a part and by no means the greater part.' Mr. Cleveland has never acted on this principle. Compromise is a word not known in his vocabulary. He stands by what he believes to be right and refuses to yield an inch; and on this principle have been achieved his greatest successes. . . .

"Above party faction and opposition the President stands firm, with courage undaunted and faith unshaken, with a clear view of what seems to be best and an unalterable determination to stick by that view to the last man. Can such an administration 'fail' in the end? We believe that, long before the 4th of March, 1897, it will have been demonstrated that the brilliant prospects of two years ago, in real work for the good of the whole people, will not prove to have been dimmed by the final event."—*The Republican (Ind.)*, Springfield.

First Congressman:—Well, we will have to go home and do a little work now.

Second Congressman:—Yes; I don't really see how we will manage to do it.

First Congressman:—It will seem real awkward at first, but I suppose we will soon get used to it.—*The Journal*, Atlanta.

A BATTLE OF LEGAL GIANTS.

JUDGE FIELD, the senior member of the United States Supreme Court, is reported to have said of the recent contest before that body on the question of the constitutionality of the Income Tax, that in his long experience he had never seen a contest equal to it. Whether or not the report has any basis of truth, it is certain that no contest has for years excited more popular interest. This is due not only to the principles involved and to the amount of money at stake—estimated at upward of fifty millions of revenue—but to the fame of the counsel employed. Ex-Senator Edmunds and Joseph H. Choate assailed the law, and Attorney-General Olney and James C. Carter defended it. The arguments were not strictly confined to legal and constitutional aspects; the questions of justice and general expediency were largely inquired into. So far as the decision of the court is concerned, it will turn on two points: (1) Is the income-tax a uniform tax within the meaning of the provision of the Constitution requiring that "all duties, imports, and excises shall be uniform"? (2) Is it a direct tax, which must be collected by apportionment among the States?

Ex-Senator Edmunds and Mr. Choate maintained that the income-tax was a direct tax, and that it offended against the rule of uniformity by exempting incomes below \$4,000 and by making discriminations in favor of semi-charitable and charitable corporations. Attorney-General Olney and Mr. Carter, on the other hand, maintained that the income-tax was an indirect tax under previous decisions of the court, and that the term "uniform" in the Constitution has a territorial application and no other. Nothing more is meant, they said, than that a Federal tax which was not a land tax nor a poll tax must be uniform in all parts of the country, and have the same operation everywhere irrespective of State lines. In defense of the law against the sweeping charges of injustice and class legislation, Mr. Olney said:

"The power to tax was for practical use, and was necessarily to be adapted to the practical conditions of human life. These were never the same for any two persons, and as applied to any community, however small, were infinitely diversified. Nothing was more evident, or had been oftener declared by courts and jurists, than that absolute equality of taxation was impossible. No system had been or could be devised that would produce any such result. No country or State of this Union had ever adopted a plan of taxation that did not exempt some portions of the community from a burden that was imposed upon others. The power to do so was unquestioned, and was universally exercised. It was quite beside the issue to argue in this or any other case that Congress had mistaken what public policy required. On that point Congress was the sole and final authority, and its decision once made controlled every other department of the Government. No exemption was made by the statute in favor of a class that was not based on some obvious line of public policy—and, that class being established, one uniform rule was applicable to its members.

"It is manifest that in this distinction between persons with incomes over \$4,000 and those with incomes under that amount, Congress was proceeding upon definite views of public policy and was aiming at accomplishing a great public object. It was seeking to adjust the load of taxation to the shoulders of the community in the manner that would make it most easily borne and most lightly felt. So with business corporations. Their net incomes were taxed at the standard rate of two per cent., but undiminished by the standard deduction of \$4,000. The result might be that a man in business as a member of a corporation was taxable at a little higher rate than a man in the same business by himself or as a copartner.

"It was common knowledge that corporations are so successful an agency for the conduct of business and the accumulation of wealth that a large section of the community viewed them with intense disfavor. When, therefore, this income-tax law made a special class of business corporations and taxed their incomes at a higher rate than that applied to the incomes of persons not incorporated, it but recognized existing social facts and conditions which it would be folly to ignore."

Mr. Carter, dealing with the same points, said the objection on the score of class discrimination is a dangerous one to raise.

"It was said," he continued, "that two per cent. of the people would pay this tax. If that were so," and he characterized the statement as a most striking commentary upon the rapidity with which the possession of wealth was becoming centralized, "it was true because two per cent. of the people own five sixths of the property of the country. Much had been said about evils threatening the nation. This law had been feared, not because it laid the tax imposed, but because it was the entering wedge which would lead to the placing of all the burden of taxation upon the few. . . . Wealth would always assert its supremacy and throw its burdens on the many who do not hold it." Mr. Carter said "his apprehension arose from a fear that the class affected by the income-tax law would continue their efforts to avoid taxation. From that practise dangers might come that we do not want to

consider. But, if we wanted relief from the danger, it would come when the rich assume freely the payment of their rightful proportion of taxes."

Mr. Choate, in replying to these arguments, said that the tax was defended on Communistic and Socialistic grounds, and that if an exemption of \$4,000 is sustained, the Communistic march will go on and five years hence a tax of 20 per cent. on incomes above \$20,000 will be imposed. He continued:

"I thought that the fundamental object of all civilized government was the preservation of the right of private property. That is what Mr. Webster said at Plymouth Rock in 1820, and I supposed that all educated, civilized men believed it. According to the doctrines that have been propounded here this morning, even that great fundamental principle has been scattered to the winds.

"Washington and Franklin were alive to that sacred principle, and if they could have foreseen that in a short time—for what are 115 years in the life of the republic?—it would be claimed in the Supreme Court of the United States that, not despite that Constitution, but by means of it, they had helped create a combination of States that could pass a law for breaking into the strong-boxes of the citizens of other States, and giving out the wealth of everybody worth more than \$100,000 for general distribution throughout the country, they would both have been keen to erase their signatures from an instrument that would result in such consequences.

"The spirit that invaded the halls of Congress was seeking to throw up its entrenchments in the Supreme Court of the United States. If this law were upheld the first parallel would be carried, and then it would be easy to overcome the whole fortress on which the rights of the people depended."

Following are some interesting Press comments on the tenor of the arguments.

A Stupefying Transformation.—"In the brief submitted to the Supreme Court by Mr. Cleveland's Attorney-General, there occurs incidentally this astonishing confession of the true character of the measure, which the Administration recommended to Congress, and which the Administration is now defending before the Supreme Court:

"Congress has adopted as the minimum income for the purpose of taxation the limit of \$4,000. The limit may be said now to divide the upper from the lower middle class, financially speaking, in the larger cities; or to divide the middle class from the wealthy in the country."

"Classes in the United States! Classes for purposes of taxation! An upper middle class, a lower middle class in cities, and a middle class and a 'wealthy' class in the country districts!

"We thank thee, Richard Olney, for this distinct, if unconscious, revelation of Cleveland 'Democracy'!

"Has Richard Olney, of Massachusetts, the adroit and successful corporation lawyer, turned Socialist?

"It looks so from his speech to the Supreme Court concerning the income tax.

"When this income-tax law," said Olney, 'makes a special class of business corporations and taxes their incomes at a higher rate than that applied to the incomes of persons not incorporated, it but recognizes existing social facts and conditions which it would be folly to ignore.'

"But corporations are only associations of individuals. Mr. Olney, as a noted and experienced corporation lawyer, must know how large a share of the stock in enterprises of this 'special class' is owned by persons of moderate means, small holders who have been thrifty and have saved something for investment. If he doesn't know, let him apply to the Secretary of the Western Union Telegraph Company, or to the Secretary of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company.

"It is common knowledge," remarks this ingenious and prosperous attorney for corporations, 'that corporations are so successful an agency for the conduct of business and the accumulation of wealth, that a large section of the community views them with intense disfavor as maliciously and cunningly devised inventions for making rich people richer and poor people poorer.'

"Has Mr. Olney, we ask, turned Socialist?

"And how about Mr. James C. Carter, of New York, the able and prosperous attorney for so many of these maliciously and cunningly devised concerns for making rich people richer and poor people poorer? Has he turned Populist agitator, too?

"In his speech on Tuesday, he threatened the country with a Socialistic uprising and a violent and perhaps bloody revolution in case the Supreme Court should attempt to enforce constitutional restrictions on the power of Congress to legislate as it pleases. If that is not what Mr. Carter's words mean, what do they mean?

"If in the very hour of their triumph," said Mr. Carter, referring to the promoters of the Populist income tax for the repres-

sion of wealth, 'they find an obstacle in their way in the shape of a judgment in a lawsuit, they are liable, if need be, to find a way to accomplish their ends over the Constitution and the courts.'

"Has *The Sun* or any other newspaper recorded in years past anything more astonishing, we may even say more stupefying, than these utterances? Whence comes the seed, the germ, the virus which has reached the minds of these distinguished and, from the worldly point of view, prosperous corporation lawyers? Have they been reading the published writings and speeches of Grover Cleveland?"—*The Sun (Dem.)*, New York.

Short-Sighted Selfishness Behind the Attack.—"Attorney-General Olney described the motive of the costly attack upon the income tax with lawyer-like precision. The formidable demonstration of eminent and expensive counsel was solely due, he said, to 'the immense pecuniary stake that is being played for.'

"The rich men and corporations that seek to nullify the law simply want to continue to dodge their taxes. Their concern is for their pockets, not for the Constitution. The 'uniformity' in taxation in which they are interested is that embodied in the tariff and internal revenue taxes upon consumption—upon the necessities of the people. If a poor clerk on a salary of \$1,500 or a mechanic who earns \$1,000 a year is made to pay not relatively but almost absolutely as much toward the support of the Federal Government as they do with their incomes of \$50,000, \$100,000 or half a million a year, they consider that taxation is uniform, equal, and highly constitutional.

"Selfishness is almost always short-sighted. The very argument advanced against the justice of this tax—that it would affect the rich chiefly and be paid by only 2 per cent. of the population—ought to have silenced opposition to it. A tax upon the superfluity of the few cannot be burdensome. And if wealth in this country has become so concentrated that only 2 per cent. of the population will be reached by a tax upon incomes exceeding \$4,000, the 98 per cent. will surely find some way of making the fortunate few contribute to the support of the Government in a just proportion to their ability to pay and to the benefits which they receive from the Government.

"If this tax law shall be overthrown on technical grounds the people will enact a more rigid one that will stand."—*The World (Dem.)*, New York.

The People in Favor of a Fair Trial of the Law.—" [Ex-Senator Edmunds] said that under this law 95 per cent. of the tax would be paid by 2 per cent. of the taxable voters, and he declared it was 'an interesting subject of speculation as to how long the Government can last under a system which allows those who pay nothing to tax their fellow citizens.'

"The Supreme Court of the United States has already upheld the principle of the income tax in a former decision, and the Government has endured the strain and lasted thus far. The country at large no doubt regrets the blunders of Democratic statesmanship in framing a tariff bill of insufficient revenues with the imposition of the income-tax feature, but now that the law is in force a large majority of the people desire to see the income tax given a fair trial. If the predictions of its friends are borne out and it brings a goodly revenue without much friction between the tax-collectors and tax-payers, it will probably be retained beyond the five-year period provided in the law.

"The Supreme Court has a habit of making its decisions fit the opinion of the country. Its decision in this case will be awaited with interest; but whatever the decision be, Mr. Edmunds's forebodings about the endurance of the Government can be dismissed."—*The Mail (Rep.)*, Chicago.

"In illustration of the workings of the income-tax law ex-Senator Edmunds, addressing the Supreme Court of the United States yesterday, showed that the incidence of the impost will bear on an exceedingly small fraction of the population. As stated, 2 per cent. of the voters of the country will be required to pay 95 per cent. of the tax. 'So much the better!' will be the verdict of the Populist and the demagogue. 'Let the rich pay, and let the poor go free!' That is the *ad captandum* utterance of the unscrupulous politician and the unthinking proletarian. This is class discrimination, and discrimination of the most dangerous description. To set up a class that pays the cost of carrying on the Government is to establish an aristocracy. That such

an aristocracy would presently find means to control the Government it sustains and pays for is as certain as any fact established by experience. It has always been the case in all history that who pays rules."—*The Telegraph (Rep.)*, Philadelphia.

"Some of the legal critics of the Press are engaged in fore-shadowing the opinion of the Supreme Court on the income tax. But there is evident disbelief among not a few persons liable to pay this tax that they will be relieved by the court from the operation of the statute. The naïve chirrupy way in which some newspapers point out the way in which the highest judicial tribunal of the land should walk, is at least refreshing."—*The Transcript (Rep.)*, Boston.

"Take note that *The Sun* does not join issue with the statement that our people are now divided into economic classes; it does not dispute, it carefully abstains from disputing the obvious and damaging fact. What it does is to find fault with the 'revelation.' According to *The Sun*, the essence of 'Democracy' is to conceal facts. But that is also the essence of 'Republicanism.'" *The People (Social.)*, New York.

A SPANISH WAR-SHIP FIRES ON THE AMERICAN FLAG.

A PEREMPTORY demand for an apology has been made by our State Department from the Government of Spain on account of the action of the unidentified Spanish war-ship in firing upon the United States mail steamship *Allianca*. As the facts are all concisely stated in Secretary Gresham's despatch to our Minister at Madrid, Mr. Hannis Taylor, we present it in full:

"This department is informed that, on the 8th inst., the United States mail steamship *Allianca*, on her homeward voyage from Colon to New York, when six miles from the coast of Cuba, off Cape Maysi, was repeatedly fired upon by a Spanish gunboat, with solid shot, which, fortunately, fell short.

"The Windward Passage, where this occurred, is the natural and usual highway for vessels plying between ports of the United States and the Caribbean Sea. Through it several regular lines of American mail and commercial steamers pass weekly within sight of Cape Maysi. They are well known, and their voyage embraces no Cuban port of call. Forcible interference with them cannot be claimed as a belligerent act, whether they pass within three miles of the Cuban coast or not, and can, under no circumstances, be tolerated when no state of war exists.

"This Government will expect prompt disavowal of the unauthorized act and due expression of regret on the part of Spain, and it must insist that immediate and positive orders be given to Spanish naval commanders not to interfere with legitimate American commerce passing through that channel, and prohibiting all acts wantonly imperiling life and property lawfully under the flag of the United States.

"You will communicate this to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and urge the importance of prompt and satisfactory response."

This is not the first offense of the kind committed by Spanish war-ships upon the rights of American merchant vessels. Similar outrages in the past are recalled in the Press comments on the affair, and it is urged that our Government should take such action as will effectually prevent repetition of such outrages in the future.

According to the statement of Captain Crossman, the commander of the *Allianca*, the vessel was on the high seas at the time of the firing, and from nine to ten miles off the coast, but Secretary Gresham bases his demand on the fact that the Windward Passage is a common commercial highway, and that even if the *Allianca* was within the three-mile limit (which ordinarily confers jurisdiction), she had a right to pass without molestation—a view which the Spanish Minister at Washington is reported as disputing.

We Must Change Our Policy.—"Cuban revolt is followed again, as in the past, by Spanish disregard of the rights of the American flag at sea. These rights are clear, unmistakable, and admitted by Spain in repeated cases. The right of search is a belligerent right. It does not exist in time of peace. An American vessel on the high seas can be required to show her colors. She can be required to do nothing else. She cannot be boarded and examined unless there is *prima facie* evidence that she is a pirate or a slaver, and in the last case only in certain waters. She cannot be hove to. She cannot be stopped. If her papers are

fraudulent or her right to carry the flag questioned, the United States will settle this issue on complaint. No other power can.

"These are primary principles in international law. They are all violated in the case of the *Allianca*. The vessel was on the high seas, and even if she were, in the course of an ordinary voyage, near the Cuban coast, 'the question,' as Secretary Evarts wrote to Minister Fairchild in 1880 in regard to like interference, 'does not appear to the Government of the United States to be decided alone by the geographical position of the vessels, but by the higher considerations involved.' The *Allianca* is an American vessel. She was on a voyage to an American port. She carried United States mail. The order to heave to, the chase, and the shots fired were all and separately, as they have been defined in numerous instances, 'infractions of sovereignty.'

"Unfortunately there is only too much reason to expect that this outrage will go the way of like acts in the past. Spain will disclaim all intention of offense. An investigation will be had. An apology will be made, and Spanish naval officers will understand perfectly that Madrid will continue to apologize while they continue to interfere with the American flag. The flagrant outrage on the *Virginius* in 1874 was succeeded by the surrender of the vessel, an apology and indemnity, the American position being weakened by proof that the *Virginius* had no right to her papers. In 1880 the *Ethel A. Merritt*, the *Eunice P. Newcomb*, the *George Washington*, and the *Hattie Haskill*, schooners in the fruit trade, were, in a single year, hove to, overhauled, and searched. Spain apologized and that was the end of it.

"In the absence of Cuban revolt these outrages of late have been few; but they come from time to time, and with Cuba in arms they will come often. But no Spanish vessel interferes with the English flag. Vessels of all varieties flying the English flag ply about Cuba. They are never touched, and with good reason; the English Government acts with decision. Spanish naval officers understand the danger of molesting the English flag. Our own flag will never be respected until a like policy is followed."—*The Press (Rep.)*, Philadelphia.

May Lead to Spain's Loss of Cuba.—"The United States does not recognize the right of search, and has fought one successful war to maintain the opposite. It does not recognize the right of any nation to search American vessels which are peacefully pursuing their avocations on the high seas, so that there can be no question really of the propriety or impropriety of the Spanish cruiser's act. It was a direct insult to the American flag, like many others of a similar character from the same source which the United States has been subjected to with more or less subsequent ill-natured amends from the Spanish Government. Spain has been allowed to hold Cuba for the simple reason that she is too feeble to be a real menace to the United States. Had Cuba been held by a strong European Government, the island would in all probability have been free long ago. But every causeless insult offered to this country by Spanish officials brings the day of reckoning closer, and Spain may wake up some morning to find that the gem of the Antilles is no longer in her diadem."—*The American (Rep.)*, Baltimore.

The Administration's Chance to Redeem Itself.—"We take for granted that the measures needed for the protection of American merchant ships in Cuban waters will be taken instantly, and not deferred until the Madrid circumlocution office has been brought to the point of offering appropriate amends for the insult to our national ensign. We may also assume, we hope, that plain and peremptory orders will be given to our naval officers with the intent that the next shot fired by a Spanish war-ship on a vessel flying the Stars and Stripes shall be followed by a broadside from an American cruiser. The rule in such a case should be to strike first and explain afterward. The next Spanish gunboat that molests an American merchant vessel ought to be pursued and blown out of the water.

"Many grievous blunders have been laid to the charge of our State Department in connection with Hawaii, with Samoa, and with the quarrel between China and Japan. It now has a chance to redeem itself, at least in some degree. Let it take with regard to the *Allianca* outrage the indignant and unflinching attitude which the rights of our citizens and the honor of our flag demand! Let it bring Spain to her knees, or punish her by the destruction of her navy and the loss of Cuba! Then and thus might the Cleveland Administration regain a part of the esteem

which seemed but yesterday irrevocably lost."—*The Sun (Dem.)*, New York.

Guilt by No Means Established.—"While the United States cannot permit a Spanish captain to fire at our merchant vessels simply because they do not obey his orders, yet it must be conceded that under certain conditions the commander of the Spanish gunboat may not have been so much in the wrong as Captain Crossman seems to think. . . .

"The mere display of a flag means nothing, until it is proven by other evidence, in the shape of the ship's papers, that the vessel had a right to the flag. If this were not so, piracy might flourish, for a pirate could then hoist any flag he saw fit to escape without further molestation.

"In the case of the *Allianca*, Captain Crossman seems to labor under the error that he was not subject to search outside of the territorial jurisdiction of Spain. Waiving the point that he may not have been outside of that jurisdiction, we may say that the captain does not seem to be aware of the conceded rule that a war-vessel of any nation may, on the high seas, search a merchantman of any other nation, except when a war-vessel of the latter nation is within signal distance. . . .

"However one may admire Captain Crossman's pluck and determination, it is quite possible that his complaint does not rest upon a secure foundation. Although the Spanish commander was in error as to the *Allianca's* character and employment, he may have committed no outrage and violated no international custom."—*The Herald (Ind.)*, Boston.

NEWSPAPER SENSATIONALISM: IS THERE A REMEDY?

THE amount of space and attention which a large number of newspapers have devoted to those two "events" in the fashionable world of New York, the marriage of Miss Anna Gould, daughter of the late Jay Gould, to the French Count de Castellane, and the divorce suit of Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt against her husband, has prompted *The New York Evening Post* and *The Journal of Commerce* to launch some keen shafts at the sensationalism of the Press, and to offer certain suggestions as to the possibility of solving the "Press problem." *The Evening Post's* editorial is as follows:

JOURNALISTIC DEMENTIA.—"The effect of wealth on the journalistic mind is a subject of considerable pathological interest which we commend to the attention of the Academy of Medicine. The condition of excitement into which it has been thrown during the past week by the marriage of one rich woman and the divorce of another, in fact, seems hardly distinguishable from a species of dementia. Unlimited space is given up to both events, and the illustrations include portraits of the entire families of the plaintiff and defendant in the divorce suit and of their various houses which they inhabit. The particulars of the divorce suit, too, are discussed in one paper as the 'biggest divorce suit ever known in the world,' and pointed out as particularly interesting to the brakemen on a railroad from which one of the parties draws his income. It must be remembered, too, that this stuff is greedily read by all classes, and if we were to infer the character of the population from its consumption, using the standards supplied by ordinary life and by other kinds of literature, we should say that the United States was inhabited exclusively by servant-girls, 'longshoremen, and hackmen. Upon the effect of such compositions on the youth who are pouring out every year from the common schools we need not comment. This is probably not yet fully visible, but it will become more and more so as the years roll by.

"It is not their indecency that is their worst fault: it is their unutterable silliness and vulgarity. One who knew no better might fairly imagine that a lot of vicious boys had got hold of the Press, and were amusing themselves with bringing civilization itself into ridicule. The most marked feature, in fact, is their puerility. Nobody who was not accustomed to them would suppose they were the work of grown-up people. Childish hilarity, irreverence, and, we may add, childish inventiveness, are their leading characteristics.

"What is most curious about this Press problem is, however,

that it is apparently insoluble. These silly youths who run this great machine, only a handful, after all, in number, and objects of more or less ridicule when they show themselves *in propria persona*, seem to hold this great nation in a kind of slavery. The Press is, to the vast mass of the town population at all events, an object of dread and dislike. We have heard denunciations of its mendacity and inquisitiveness from people of all classes and conditions. But no mission set before the American people seems more hopeless than escape from it. The exclusion of the British from this Continent, the provision of a sound currency and good banking system, the purification of the suffrage, and the abolition of the spoils system, all seem easy and practical compared with the reform of the Press. Clergymen preach about it, magazine writers write about it, and it is a common topic of conversation at nearly every social gathering in the land. There is hardly any one who has not suffered from 'the newspapers,' rich or poor, and especially those who have passed through some notorious sorrow or misfortune. Traveling Americans hang their heads for shame when they see an American newspaper in a foreign reading-room. They hang them still lower when it is thrust into their hands on the wharf when they return to their native land.

"But nobody seems able to suggest any remedy, and, what is worse, the grumblers over the wicked journals are often their most diligent readers. One too often finds that the bitterest denouncers of the bad newspapers are familiar with everything they contain every day, repeat their gossip, enjoy their 'digs,' and especially the bits of blackguardism with which they annoy decent people. Here is the root of the evil. There is no surer reflex of the popular taste than journalism. It has been well said that 'every country has the kind of Jew it deserves.' It might be said with greater accuracy that every country has the kind of newspapers it calls for. It is through this cranny that the proprietors of blackguard newspapers effect their escape. They say they furnish only what the community calls for, and show their 'sales' and their fortunes in proof of the statement. Of course there is always a certain action and reaction going on between the public and the Press. The Press in some degree creates the tastes which it gratifies, and the journalist's plea that he only publishes what he knows he can sell might be set up by the vender of obscene literature. But the main fact remains that the public gets the kind of Press it wants, and which it could kill or discourage if it chose.

"For the Press there are certain excuses which, while they do not solve the problem, are worth consideration. Fewer and fewer able young men go into it as a calling, owing to the absence of all prizes in it and the insecurity of tenure. It is recruited largely by men who shrink from the early drudgery of the regular professions, or desire to step rapidly into a salaried place, or enjoy the variety and excitement of a journalistic life, or the power of secretly bombarding or annoying their seniors. Most of these men begin in the reporters' room, which, as generally managed, is the grave of seriousness and truthfulness and high ambition. Moreover, the proprietors, in catering for a salacious and frivolous public, as they consider it, do not encourage young men who are burdened with thoughtfulness or attainments. They want the livelier, more unscrupulous and imaginative kind who 'write up' the divorce cases and pursue the rich into their bedrooms. Yet it is from the ranks of these youngsters that the editorial places are filled, and by the time the young journalist reaches one of them he is apt, in good truth, to look on the world as a stage, and the men and women on it as bad actors, and humanity itself, with all its hopes and fears, as simple 'copy.' It will thus be seen that the Press problem is mainly an economical problem. No other calling would be better off which offered no more prizes or security, and in which personality was so completely suppressed, and tyros enjoyed power in no way dependent on their experience or capacity."

With *The Evening Post's* statement of the "symptoms of the disease," *The Journal of Commerce* is inclined to agree, but it dissents from its diagnosis. We quote from its article:

"AMENTIA, NOT DEMENTIA.—To our view, the disease is rather Amentia than Dementia; the distinction being that between idiocy or total insanity and insanity or madness—a distinction not without a difference. From regard for the reputation of the craft, however, we would explain that this designation applies

not so much to the personnel of the Press as to the subject-matter which it has now become its high calling to produce—again a distinction not without a difference, the importance of which will be readily understood.

"For reasons best known to themselves, the issuers of the daily paper have, within late years, strangely changed their estimate of the mental quality of their readers. This reduced appraisal of the popular intelligence we must presume to be a regretful accommodation to the outcome of our common school and to the quality of the collegiate education of these degenerating times; for we can hardly conceive of any other source of responsibility for the intellectual and artistic decadence of which this change of rating is such conclusive evidence. But, however that may be, the fact remains for public reflection that the publishers of one half of our dailies seem to have reduced the ranking of their readers from that of intelligent American citizens to the grade of nincompoops, children and idiots. Time was when the editorial matter was contributed by the gods of the sanctum; now, any prosy numskull is deemed competent to satisfy the supposed almost extinct market for that heretofore staple product. It has become a canon in modern journalism that the brightest men should be put to the elaboration of baubles and the embellishment of nothings; and certainly some of the productions of these artists and artistes (headlines for instance) are marvelous specimens of dexterity in decorating emptiness and illustrating the non-existent. . . .

"The same principle of selection applies to the news department proper. Here, again, the publisher thinks he has gaged human nature to a dot, and his problem is to cram the reader with whatever his appetite most craves. He catalogues every passion, prejudice, error, habit, vice, fad, and craze; and therein he finds his market. He watches the daily parade of social follies; listens at the household keyhole; skims the scum of the police court; gathers up the filth of the social gutters; waylays every man supposed to carry a secret; hob-nobs with detectives for the unearthing of social scandals; and keeps close scent on marital and amorous delinquencies. His matter thus secured is then treated according to its adaptation to stimulate the more wayward and misleading passions; spiced with innuendo and suggestion; and garnished with gaudy head-lines. Next morning, this model modern publisher swells with the proud satisfaction of having photographed a true picture of a day's life of a great city. But has he done so? Far from it. He has omitted one half the things in which men have the largest and truest interest, in order to make room for the things against which men and women of pure life and refined tastes disgustedly revolt. Along with much that legitimately interests and instructs, he has thrown in more that salaciously exhibits bad morals and thereby promotes social vitiation. Who but the publisher will say that this is good, decent, or wholesome journalism? It is a commer-



We beg to offer a few wedding details which our esteemed contemporaries appear to have overlooked.—*The Journal, Chicago.*

cial prostitution of the greatest force of modern society at the expense of social purity and refinement.

"The public have some reputation at stake in this matter. The publisher of the licentious daily claims that his paper is a true reflection of American society. What have decent men and women, who constitute nine tenths of our people, to say to this incriminatory claim? How do they relish the compliment? Have they any reply to it? Are they willing to admit where the responsibility for this degradation of journalism really rests?"

WHY COMMODORE GERRY FAVORS WHIPPING-POSTS.

THE bill for reviving the whipping-post, which came within a few votes of passing the New York State Senate the other day, is attributed to Commodore Elbridge T. Gerry as its author. As most people know, Commodore Gerry is at the head of the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, and this bill has grown out of his experiences in connection with the Society's work. In *The North American Review*, March, he presents the reasons for his advocacy of the whipping-post as a penalty for crimes involving the infliction of physical suffering.

He speaks of the effects of many such crimes upon the victims, who in many cases never recover from the knife-thrust or pistol-shot, or other form of violence, while the sole penalty now inflicted upon the assailant is a term of imprisonment, during which he is comfortably housed and fed and both his physical and moral well-being are carefully looked after. Discharged convicts, he says, have even been known to commit new crimes for the express purpose of being recommitted to a condition that has been fairly satisfactory to them. The Commodore then continues as follows:

"Centuries ago the Mosaic Law inflicted the penalty of forty stripes save one for the punishment of offenders. That system has been followed throughout Europe, among the various civilized nations as well as the barbaric. Corporal punishment is to-day the principal method of enforcing obedience to the rules and regulations of the prisons in which convicts are confined. It possesses the advantage, when properly inflicted under medical supervision, of not injuring the health of the criminal to whom it is applied, nor of interfering with his personal avocations. At the same time, the infliction of physical pain is something which the lower class of criminals instinctively dread, from which they shrink, and which they will willingly avoid if they can. It is an argument which they can appreciate, no matter how illiterate they are, or how debased by crime, or how besotted by indulgence in liquor. It is conceded to be effectual when applied, and the result in that respect is best shown in one State, that of Delaware, where for years it has been resorted to for the punishment of minor offenses. At the present time it is proposed to consider the subject as a deterrent in cases of felony.

"There are crimes which Lord Coke says are not so much as to be named among Christians. They involve the application of brute force upon helpless, immature, innocent childhood, in some cases, incredible as it may appear, induced by a belief that the commission of the offense will rid the criminal of the results of vice with which he is infected. The result sometimes takes the form of permanent lacerations, from which the child may never recover; often inoculation with ineradicable disease, which poisons its physical existence forever; and too frequently the destruction and obliteration of moral sense in the victim, from the horrible character of the offense. In some cases the result to the innocent little child is death itself. The longest imprisonment prescribed by law for such offenses is twenty years, which, as shown, the criminal may reduce to sixteen years and ten months. These crimes to-day are frightfully upon the increase in the city of New York and in the State of New York, as shown by the records of the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, where specific cases, with the facts, are carefully preserved and can be produced to verify this startling statement at any time it may be so desired. Thus, for example, the number of these crimes, which are comprehended under the classified heads of rape, sodomy, and incest, from such records alone, in

1893 in the city of New York was 45, and in 1894, 53; and in 1895, if the average of the first month continues, 72 cases. Something must be done to stop this. What can be done? Imprisonment evidently is of no use. The only remedy which can be successful is that which has been tried elsewhere, in cases where the character of the offense indicates that it consists in or is accompanied by brutal violence, and that the offender is one who can only be reached through physical pain applied personally to himself."

The writer then goes on to cite the effects of whipping in England where garroting was "not long since" checked by it, and where assaults upon persons of the royal family have been made to disappear almost entirely by its application. To the objection that whipping is a relic of barbarism, he replies that on the contrary it "is recognized in every household of the land" as a desirable mode of correction. Maryland and Delaware utilize it, and the Supreme Court has decided that it is not cruel nor unusual in the constitutional sense. In Indiana, Georgia, and Connecticut it is a legalized part of prison discipline.

A BISHOP'S REFORMED SALOON.

BISHOP FALLOWS, of the Reformed Episcopal Church, has recently opened a "beer saloon" at Chicago for the purpose of promoting the cause of temperance reform. His plan is to provide all the outward marks of an ordinary saloon, minus alcoholic beverages. A non-alcoholic imitation of beer is dispensed, which, according to Bishop Fallows, is a pure brewed extract of hops and malt, which every beer-drinker will declare to be a good, bitter drink. The saloon has the free-lunch counter, the bar, fixtures, cigar-case, and tables for games. Portraits of prominent reformers adorn the walls.

Bishop Fallows hopes to become a formidable competitor of the ordinary saloon-keeper. Large quantities of the non-intoxicating beer are sold daily, according to newspaper reports, and the experiment has thus far been very successful. The Chicago brewers are said to have resolved to make war upon the Home Salon by boycotting the coopers who supply barrels to the makers of the new beer.

In explanation and defense of his plan, Bishop Fallows says:

"What has the church or temperance movement to offer in a material way in competition with the saloon? Nothing. I have been investigating the saloon business. I have had men at work finding out all about their methods, and the business principles on which they conduct their business. We propose to apply those principles in the conduct and management of places where we can offer everything that the saloon does in the way of warmth and light and a place to sit down, and a place to get something to eat and something to drink, except intoxicants. I believe these places can be made both self-supporting and self-propagating. For five cents we can furnish a hot drink of coffee, tea, or other non-intoxicating drinks, together with a pretty fair meal of bread, meat, and potato salad or something of that sort. For ten cents we can do very much better. It is an experiment that has proved successful in London, Liverpool, Manchester, and other English cities. If one proves successful a hundred will, and we want to locate them right where they are needed. I believe such a work



BISHOP FALLOWS.

as this, if it proves successful, will be worth fifty years of merely intellectual temperance work. The more I study this matter the more I am impressed with its possibilities."

The Press is exceedingly skeptical with regard to the temperance value of the institution, and entertains little faith in its success.

Wait till the Regular Groceries Close Their Doors.—"Boniface Fallows reports business flourishing at the 'Home Salon.' The spurious beer, the alleged ale, the soft drinks with hard names have been going off with a rush. Distinguished guests from the Salvation Army, the American Railway Union, the Northwestern University, and the Whitechapel Club have called and been sent away cheered, but not intoxicated. Not once has the interposition of the police been demanded. The bung-starter has been confined to its legitimate uses. True it is that the free lunch has been a trifle overworked by temperate gentlemen who forgot to pay for their drinks, but all the barkeepers have been taught the text 'Love them that despitefully use you,' and the Weary Wraggles have been allowed to go their way without castigation.

"So exultant is the bishop over the success of his first experiment in conducting a moral ginmill that he promises to start others of the same sort in the business district. Isn't he, however, a shade too sanguine? It is yet to be proved whether the large volume of custom enjoyed by his bogus bar is obtained at the expense of the saloons which are what they pretend to be. We know of no reason why the bishop or other clergy should enter into violent competition with drug stores and candy-shops in purveying temperance drinks of undoubted morality but dubious healthfulness. And there is much reason to fear that that is exactly what the Home Salon is doing. If it be really luring mankind from beer to beerette, from rye to red pop, it may be serving a useful purpose, but this is yet to be proved. Until it be more successfully demonstrated, the barkeeping bishop would do well to content himself with his present excellent imitation of a saloon. When some of the regular grogeries in the neighborhood have closed their doors for lack of custom, the church snuggery may begin to boast of victory."—*The Times, Chicago.*

Is It Moral?—"It is said that the non-alcoholic imitation of beer which Bishop Fallows is selling in his Chicago church saloon looks like beer, tastes like beer, foams like beer, and has so many of the other qualities of beer that it is calculated to deceive Hans Breitmann himself.

"This being the case, is it moral? . . .

"Is this reform? If it is, there is reason for believing that Hades will be the most thoroughly reformed place in the universe, for there, according to the version of a sacred poet whose scriptures have the authority of venerable antiquity, men as shadows will indulge the shadows of their unmastered habits, drinking church reform beer and smoking patent reform pipes forever and ever without the possibility either of satisfaction or satiety. And after having tried this for only a short time one of the greatest dignitaries of the place declared that he would rather be a tramp or a Chicago broker on earth than the most respected and honored potentate in all sheol.

"The mocking reality of such pinchbeck imitations of alluring vice as the patent pipe has something infernal about it. Homer was not mistaken on that point. There can be no virtue in pretending to be delightfully vicious. The way to reform is to reform. There is no other way."—*The World, New York.*

May Work Both Ways.—"Some of the features of the work, not its general plan, are of such a nature that we think they may fairly be questioned in a friendly spirit. The place is christened the 'Home Salon,' suggesting saloon, and it is this spirit of imitation of the saloon in several points whose advisability we question. It is fitted up with a regulation 'bar,' non-intoxicating 'beer' and fermented 'wine' are among the drinks, cigars are sold, and billiards are among the amusements. All these are evident attempts to attract by imitating as closely as can be done consistently the ordinary saloon; but is this not an attraction that will work both ways? Will not some who have visited the imitation be tempted to see what the genuine is like? Is the use of tobacco something that the church can indulge, not to say encourage? It is said that if this experiment is successful, Bishop Fallows intends to multiply them through the city. In the English form [of coffee houses] we shall rejoice to see them increase.

But we are sure that they will be fully as useful wearing an unequivocal title as do the English coffee houses, and not equipped with furniture, names, and refreshments which suggest the corrupting institution which they aim to supplant."—*The Advance (Congreg.), Chicago.*

CHARLES A. DANA ARRAIGNED FOR LIBEL.

A MOST interesting legal controversy is now in progress in the Federal courts of Washington and New York. Both on account of the parties to the suit and the questions involved, this litigation is likely to attain celebrity. Charles A. Dana, the editor of *The New York Sun*, and W. M. Laffan, its publisher, are the defendants, and Frank B. Noyes, an officer of *The Washington Evening Star* Publishing Company, is the plaintiff. The charge is criminal libel, and the indictment was found by the Washington Grand Jury. A certified copy of the indictment having been transmitted to the Federal district attorney of New York, Mr. Dana was arrested and brought before a Federal judge sitting in New York (Mr. Laffan being absent from the city, he has not yet been arrested). Pending a hearing, however, he was released without bail. On behalf of Mr. Dana the question is raised that the attempt to force him to stand trial in Washington, instead of in New York, the place of the publication of the libel, is a departure from the ancient and constitutional right of an accused to be tried by a jury of the community in which he lives. Mr. Noyes brought the suit in Washington because he could not proceed against Mr. Dana for criminal libel in any other Federal court, and his contention is that the offense was committed in Washington as well as in New York because copies of the paper containing the libel were sent to and circulated in Washington by *The Sun* Publishing Company. Mr. Dana insists that that is a strained and unwarrantable construction of the law in regard to place of publication, and desires to be tried in a New York State court (where, as the law stands the action would have to be a civil one for damages merely).

The suit grows out of the long-standing quarrel between the United Press and the Associated Press, two news-gathering agencies. Mr. Dana is President of the former, and Mr. Noyes is a Director of the latter. In a savage attack on the methods of the Associated Press, published some time ago in *The Sun's* editorial columns, the following passage occurred:

"The corporation is organized under the Illinois State law, and the provisions of that statute respecting the personal liability of directors are amusing. We commend a careful study to the unfortunate newspaper managers who have been roped in. They may see their way to making such a thoroughly dishonest director as Frank B. Noyes, of Washington, for instance, refund to them the amount of extra assessments out of which they have been buncoed."

The last sentence contains the alleged libel for which it is sought to try Mr. Dana in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia.

Great interest is manifested by the Press at large in the constitutional question raised by Mr. Dana. The general opinion expressed is that it would be a flagrant invasion of a fundamental right to force Mr. Dana to appear for trial in a Washington court. We select a few of the Press comments for reproduction:

A Priceless Right Assailed.—"The theory on which this extraordinary attempt is made is that wherever a newspaper containing an alleged libel is sold or circulated, there the offense is committed and the accused may be tried. . . . If that theory be accepted, any person charged with libel may be transported for criminal trial to any part of the country where the alleged libel has found its way and a Federal court may be located. A New York publisher may be taken to Texas or California, Oklahoma or Alaska, or a San Francisco publisher brought to New York. Not only would publishers and the army of persons employed in getting out and distributing newspapers and other publications be liable to such an outrage, but also every individual who writes a letter containing any alleged libel.

"As long ago as the early days of the Republic the stamp of

condemnation was put on this theory by the greatest expounder of the Constitution this country has produced. In the case of Aaron Burr, Chief-Justice Marshall laid down the constitutional doctrine that the crime of treason is committed where a man conspires, and that there, where he acts, the accused must be tried. If, he asked, by way of illustration, a rebel waging war in New Hampshire should be taken to Georgia for trial, *'to what purpose are these provisions in the Constitution which direct the place of trial and ordain that the accused shall be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation?'*

"On the same principle the crime of libel, though said to be technically committed wherever the publication circulates, is really committed where the publication is issued, and there should the accused be tried.

"As Judge Cooley well says in his standard work on 'Constitutional Limitations': *'It would be a singular result of the revolution where one of the grievances complained of was the assertion of a right to send parties abroad for trial if it should be found that an editor may be seized anywhere in the Union, and transported by a Federal officer to every territory into which his paper may find its way, to be tried in each in succession for offenses which consisted in a single act not actually committed in any of them.'*"—*The Herald, New York.*

Peculiar Position of the District of Columbia.—"Some influential newspapers, yielding to a tendency with which *The Star* sympathizes to resist vigorously on suspicion any possible extension of an already unjustly burdensome law of libel, have criticized the indictment as establishing a precedent under which 'a New York publisher may be taken to Texas or California, Oklahoma or Alaska, or a San Francisco publisher brought to New York.' This criticism is based upon a misunderstanding of the law. This District is the only part of the Republic in which libel is an offense against the law of the United States, and to no other place than the National capital can the removal for trial be sought of a libeler who has committed from a distance this offense against the local law. As an offset to this peculiar privilege is the unique and exclusive disability announced in the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, that the District is not a State under the Constitution, whose people can sue in the Federal courts, and that its residents stand in this regard in a more unfavorable attitude toward the National judiciary than aliens. On the one hand they are debarred from seeking as citizens of a State the impartial justice of a United States court elsewhere against the citizens of another State. On the other hand offenders against the local law, who are found in any of the States, can be brought and are brought frequently to this jurisdiction for trial, and the list of offenses upon which such removals can be sought is broader in the case of the District than in that of any other part of the Republic. The law makes both exceptions in the case of the District, the one to its injury, the other to its benefit."—*The Star, Washington.*

How About the Injustice to the Libeled Person?—"In the discussion over the Dana-Noyes affair, public attention has been fixed almost exclusively on the hardship that would be inflicted on the editor in having to be tried for criminal libel at a distance from his home. But the hardship of the libeled person in having to seek redress at a distance from his home has received but little notice, and yet this is the more important matter. Opinions like Judge Cooley's quoted by *The Herald* yesterday overlook, too, the great changes which have come over the Press since the law of libel sprang up and became important. In the beginning of the century, a New York paper would not circulate fifty miles from New York. It is now read five hundred miles away on the same day. It is delivered in Washington in the same forenoon. Moreover, the system of telegraphic correspondence exposes persons living in any part of the Union to New York libels, it may be of the most dastardly character, such as that which the other day accused the Connecticut clergyman's daughter of eloping. . . . If any traveling has to be done in a libel case, the editor, and not the libeled man, ought to do it. This idea, we are glad to say, finds expression in the Penal Code of this State, which embodies the morality as well as the criminal law of the State. Section 249 provides that if a newspaper is prosecuted for libel on a person residing elsewhere than in the county of publication, and the defendant insists on having it tried in such county, he must file a sufficient bond with two sureties, 'conditioned for the payment, in case the defendant is convicted, of all the com-

plainant's reasonable expenses in going to and from his place of residence to the place of trial and in attendance upon the trial.'"—*The Evening Post, New York.*

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

THE absence of the sound of "dull, sickening thuds" on the lecture platform indicates that if the retired Congressmen have started the enthusiasm is slow.—*Plain Dealer, Cleveland.*

ONE of the most widely advertised Spring suits just now is the income-tax suit.—*The Globe, Boston.*

IT is said that there is in Washington the following notice posted: "Credit given to gentlemen, but cash expected from members of Congress."—*Tammany Times, New York.*

"DAD, what does them Washin'ton folks mean by the 'parity'?"

"I don't know positive, but I reckon it's short for five-cent cotton an' a mortgage on the mule."—*The Constitution, Atlanta.*

IF the whipping-post is to be revived for wife-beaters, the ducking-stool should also be restored as a protection to henpecked husbands.—*The Times, Washington.*

"MISS SOLIDCASH is to marry Sir Geoffrey Foxe-Hunt. They will reside in London." "Ah! more gold engaged for export."—*Vogue, New York.*

"DID you say, sir," said the excited statesman, "that it was an impossibility for me to tell the truth?" "No, sir," replied the other, "I merely said it was an improbability."—*The Star, Washington.*

THE HON. MRS. STRONGMIND (rising in her place and speaking in a deep, resonant voice):—I wish now, Madam Speaker, to move that we proceed to the consideration of the bill "to prohibit men from going out between acts at theaters."—*The Tribune, Chicago.*

A DESPATCH from Topeka says: "It is decided officially by a statement showing general concurrence of lawyers that in registering for municipal elections women are not required to state their exact age, but will comply with the law by simply stating that they are 'over twenty-one.' The subject has been agitated thoroughly here, and women's meetings have discussed the question in its various bearing." It is felt that the last obstacle in the way of a general acceptance by women of the suffrage has been overcome.—*The Express, Buffalo.*

MANY men are of the opinion that woman will not deserve the ballot until she gives up big hats and balloon sleeves.—*The American, Baltimore.*

BOY on the Fence—"My paw only has to work six hours, and he earns \$4 a day."

New Boy—"Huh! My paw don't have to work at all. He does the street cleaning!"—*The Tribune, New York.*

"Do you belong to the Law and Order Society, Major?" "Yes, sir! Got anybody you want lynched?"—*The Constitution, Atlanta.*



ITS FIRST APPEARANCE.

The new party amazes the old political acrobats by coming out on a very narrow platform.—*The Journal, Minneapolis.*

LETTERS AND ART.

SOME LYRICS OF THE DAY.

IT has been claimed by two of our most able and accurate critics that the present quality of American lyric verse excels at every point the product abroad, and this claim has been acceded to by at least one of England's noted men of letters, a poet himself. It took a long time for the blossom of our literature to acquire color and odor of its own, but the transformation seems to have been accomplished. Nevertheless, our current magazines do not bring us a very rich feast. We do not expect to find good poems in the magazines alone, but a thorough search through our other journals has failed of gathering anything noteworthy. It is our purpose to select and publish once a month such poems as appear to us worthy of reproduction. This we have done for several months. In this issue we present American lyrics exclusively. Mr. Bliss Carman is Canadian by birth, and is still so loyal that he is said to wildly fling his hat to the breeze whenever he recalls the patriotic outburst of Sir John Macdonald—"A British subject I was born, a British subject I will die"—but he is bodily with us and is essentially of us, and American periodicals would be poorer for lack of his rimed fancy and imagination.

We find in *The New England Magazine* the following dainty ballad by Minna Irving. It is ingeniously constructed, and carries one back to an era (now returning perhaps) when many sweet, simple, sentimental songs were written:

LAVENDER LEAVES.

The waving corn was green and gold,
The damask roses blown,
The bees and busy spinning-wheel
Kept up a drowsy drone,—
When Mistress Standish, folding down
Her linen, white as snow,
Between it laid the lavender,
One Summer long ago.

The slender spikes of grayish-green,
Still moist with morning dew,
Recalled a garden sweet with box
Beyond the ocean's blue,—
An English garden, quaint and old,
She nevermore might know;
And so she dropped a homesick tear
That Summer long ago.

The yellow sheets grew worn and thin,
And fell in many a shred;
Some went to bind a soldier's wounds,
And some to shroud the dead.
And Mistress Standish rests her soul
Where graves their shadows throw
And violets blossom, planted there
In Summers long ago.

But still between the royal rose
And lady-lily tall
Springs up the modest lavender
Beside the cottage wall.
The spider spreads her gossamer
Across it to and fro—
The ghost of linen laid to bleach
One Summer long ago.

The same magazine contains the following striking little picture, by Dorothea Lummis:

CIRCUMSTANCE.

Tawdry and tired, she flaunted in,
Dragging a child, neglected, thin,
Ill-fed, one ankle slightly lame,
A thing of accident and shame.
Bold glances and a painted smile
This mother wears. Across the aisle,
Watching the two with yearning eyes,
A wife, and childless, sits and sighs.

In *Harper's Magazine* we find a poem, by Marrión Wilcox, which, although written in an almost conversational style, is buoyed by dignity of thought and reaches a noble climax:

LIKE THE GOOD GOD.

His own face he had never seen before
In all his recluse life, and he had grown

Almost to manhood knowing nothing more
Than the poor cell in which they two alone,
He and his father, dwelt.

I can't tell why

His father fled into the wilderness,
But for some wrong he loathed society.
Taking his infant son from such distress
As he himself had felt, he fed his mind
With all experience taught of good and bad;
So the boy knew by name each horrid kind
Of crime, each lovely virtue; and he had
Such images, to frighten or delight,
As his thoughts made by day, his dreams by night.
With form and feature fancy did deck out
A sweet angelic choir, a devils' rout.
But One, of whom his father oftenest spoke,
Remained only a name: no image woke
Into his fancy when he heard that all
Came from that One—from that One's simple word:
The sun's uprising and the sparrow's fall:
For, while he heard such things, he thought he heard
That this Source of all life suffered death's reign;
Himself secure, permitted mortal pain.
So the boy tried to imagine good and evil
Expressed in one face—Gabriel and the devil—
But could not do it.

Now the loveliest thing

That boy was!—manly past imagining,
Hardy with abstinence, with high thoughts fine:
Nature in him had made her work divine.
But what he was he knew not till one day
When rain had fallen in that desert place:
A pool of water mirrored his own face,
And, seeing it, he humbly knelt to pray.

Mr. Stedman contributes to *The Century* the following refined sonnet:

PROEM TO A VICTORIAN ANTHOLOGY.

England! since Shakespeare died no loftier day
For thee than lights herewith a century's goal,—
Nor statelier exit of heroic soul
Conjoined with soul heroic,—nor a lay
Excelling theirs who made renowned thy sway
Even as they heard the billows which outroll
Thine ancient sea, and left their joy and dole
In song, and on the strand their mantles gray.
Star-rayed with fame thine Abbey windows loom
Above his dust, whom the Venetian barge
Bore to the main; who passed the two-fold marge
To slumber in thy keeping: yet make room
For the great Laurifer, whose chanting large
And sweet shall last until our tongue's far doom.

In *The Atlantic* we come upon Bliss Carman in his best mood and laying on colors with the courage of an impressionist. This is his poem:

AT THE GRANITE GATE.

There paused to shut the door A fellow called the Wind. . . . With mystery before, And reticence behind,	The wilding orioles then Shall make the golden air Heavy with joy again, And the dark heart shall dare
A portal waits me too In the glad house of Spring; One day I shall pass through, And leave you wondering.	Resume the old desire, The exigence of Spring, To be the orange fire That tips the world's gray wing.
It lies beyond the marge Of evening or of prime, Silent and dim and large, The gateway of all time.	And the lone wood-bird (Hark, The whippoorwill night long Threshing the Summer dark With his gold flail of song!)
There troop by night and day My brothers of the field; And I shall know the way Their wood-songs have revealed.	Shall be the lyric lift, When all my senses creep, To bear me through the rift In the blue range of sleep.
The dusk will hold some trace Of all my radiant crew Who vanished to that place, Ephemeral as dew.	And so I pass beyond The solace of your hand; But ah, so brave and fond! With that morrow land,
Into the twilight dun, Blue moth and dragonfly, Adventuring alone, Shall be more brave than I?	Where deed and daring fail, But joy for evermore Shall tremble and prevail Against the narrow door,
There innocents shall bloom, And the white cherry-tree, With birch and willow plume To strew the road for me.	Where sorrow knocks too late, And grief is over-due, Beyond the granite gate There will be thoughts of you.

We also find in *The Atlantic* a sonnet by Madison Cawein, whose name is invariably a voucher for something good if not perfect. Mr. Cawein too often topples over the fabric of his fancy by a last awkward touch, just as he has done in this case. The calamity of the fall of Troy was terrible in itself, but the

suggestion of that merely local event weakens and dissipates the grandeur of this lurid dream in "the mind of Nature." The dream should have embodied some universal catastrophe.

SIMULACRA.

Dark in the west the sunset's somber rack
Unrolled vast walls the rams of war had split,
Along whose battlements the battle lit
Tempestuous beacons; and, with gates hurled back,
A mighty city, red with ruin and sack,
Through smouldering breaches, crumbling bit by bit,
Showed where the God of Slaughter seemed to sit
With Conflagration glaring at each crack.

Who knows? Perhaps as sleep unto us makes
Our dreams as real as our waking seems
With recollections time cannot destroy,
So in the mind of Nature now awakes
Haply some wilder memory, and she dreams
The stormy story of the fall of Troy.

EARLY ARTISTIC WATCHES.

ABOUT three hundred and seventy-five years ago the first watch was made, and it is still in running order. Clocks were made long before watches, the year 900 after Christ being about the time when clocks with wheel-works, the power being given by hanging weights, were first made. But these time-pieces were stationary. Later on smaller clocks were made, but it was not until the beginning of the Sixteenth Century that an ingenious locksmith of Nuremberg constructed a portable watch, made entirely of iron. These facts we condense from the introduction to an article on early watches by Mr. George Frederick Kunz in *The Monthly Illustrator*. The illustrations herewith are from photographs of watches in the Marfels collection, now in possession of Messrs. Tiffany & Co., with whom Mr. Kunz is professionally associated as gem-expert. We reproduce the photographs by courtesy of Mr. Kunz, from whose interesting article we quote as follows:

"The object of the present paper is to give a short notice of some remarkable timepieces which it was my privilege to examine in a Berlin private collection, one of the most important and the most complete of its kind in existence, and which has since been brought to New York.

"It contains the first watch that was ever made, and one that is still in working order—an iron watch of Peter Henlein, now universally accepted as the inventor of the pocket-watch, who was a locksmith of Nuremberg, and was born in 1480. The present watch (Fig. 1) was made certainly not later than 1520. The works are entirely of iron. The back of the case and the cover, which are of bronze, and the dial, are beautifully ornamented with arabesques of ingenious design, cut into the surface and delicately chased. The dial is divided into twelve hours, but has no minute-marks on the spaces. Above the figure twelve there is a small thorn, and above each of the other figures a small knob, for convenience of feeling the time at night. The early watches had but one hand, the hour-hand, and the main-spring,



FIG. 2.—Engraved Dial: Sixteenth Century.



FIG. 1.—The Oldest Existing Watch: Sixteenth Century.

of hardened iron, had no casing, but was merely confined by four pillars supporting the back plate. . . .

"An egg-shaped watch of the Sixteenth Century has upon its face three dials touching each other at the rims like a clover-leaf



FIG. 3.—An Engraved Iron Watch: About 1630.

(Fig. 2), and the remainder of the oval ornamented with the richest foliage intertwinings. This watch shows the hour, day of the week and of the month, the signs of the zodiac, and the progress of the moon from day to day; and the back of the case is an exquisite example of the engraver's art. At that period, and indeed, almost up to the beginning of the present century, each watch was a work of art (Fig. 3), distinctive in its character.

"Not only were painter and sculptor artists in those days, but every handicraftsman sought to give to the soul of his work a befitting body that should gladden the eye and refresh the senses at the same time it was performing its useful part. The smallest piece of jewelry had a distinctive design, thought out and worked by the mind and the hand, giving to each production their whole strength, their whole power, and their whole cunning; and both the mind and the hand were guided by love and reverence for art.

"An oval watch of the Sixteenth Century, made at Grenoble, shows upon the back of the bronze case a spirited composition, 'Queen Esther before Ahasuerus,' in the finest style of chasing and engraving. The dial, of silver gilt, is much smaller than the entire contour of the face of the watch. This dial is surrounded by an exquisite chased design of birds and stags, and the figure of a man playing the viol, intertwined with light foliage. The inner parts—the bridge, the barrel, and the click—are minutely ornamented in the same rich style. This watch has an alarm attachment, and a sprightly little tinkling is heard at the hour set for its starting.

"Although the first pocket-watches were large, thick, heavy, and bulky, we find nevertheless that soon after the invention became known, very small watches were made, and the Sixteenth Century furnishes a large number of most exquisitely ornamented watches, not more than an inch or an inch and a quarter in diameter. These were still much thicker in proportion to their breadth than the watches of the present day. As the art advanced and the demand increased, more costly materials, of course, were made use of for the casings. Bronze and brass were succeeded by silver, which was often gilt, and then solid gold, and this latter was then studded with jewels.

"As curiosities, other materials were used for the cases. Agate and rock crystal were much liked; the latter was often used, especially for watches in the form of a cross (Fig. 4), which were given to high dignitaries of the church, and were worn upon the breast, suspended by a ribbon or chain around the neck. These crosses, which were rarely more than an inch broad and an inch and a half long, were made of a single piece of crystal, hollowed out with the greatest accuracy, and with the faces beveled; and the transparent lid opened on a hinge of gold. The cross at all its angles and edges was framed in with a delicate band of gold, ribbed, or beaded, or foliated. The dial, not more than half an inch in diameter, was of silver, minutely engraved, within the circle inside of the figures, with a Scriptural subject, which can properly be seen only by the aid of a magnifying glass. The intervals surrounding the dial and extending to the four ends of



FIG. 4.—A Bishop's Cross-Watch, Rock Crystal: Sixteenth Century.

the cross were of silver-gilt, also richly engraved with figures and emblems, the whole face of the cross forming a harmonious design, rich in tint, and to which the sharp, brilliant edges of the crystal gave a heightened luster. One of these crosses—one of the finest specimens of its kind—shows upon its dial the annunciation of Christ to the shepherds; and surrounding this the resurrection and the emblems of crucifixion. It is the work of Antoine Arlaud, of about the year 1550."

THE RENASCENCE OF POE.

POE has never died out, but there have been brief stretches of time when his works have undergone partial eclipse. From such occultation they are now again emerging. The personal character of Poe has been more liberally (perhaps some one would substitute illiberally) discussed than that of any American author, and so his name at least has been kept prominent.

Mr. D. L. Maulsby, writing for *The Dial*, hails with pleasure the appearance of the handsome illustrated edition of Poe's complete works, in ten volumes, now being published by Stone & Kimball, Chicago. This edition is prefaced with a memoir by Prof. George E. Woodberry and a special introduction to the tales by Mr. Stedman, who, says Mr. Maulsby, has shown that he can appreciate Poe "without patronage or pity." Mr. Maulsby is manifestly a literary partizan of Poe, if not a more cavalier champion, but he is judicious in all he here has to say. We quote from his letter:

"His biographers, from the notorious perversion of Griswold to the accurate documentary life by Professor Woodberry, have seldom been sympathetic. Emerson's ear, insensible to music, found nothing in Poe's verse but nursery jingles. Lowell, while allowing 'three fifths of him' to be 'genius,' precipitated a sharp rejoinder from his former friend by pronouncing the remainder fraction 'sheer fudge.' Nowadays, Prof. Barrett Wendell, although naming Poe as one of the three distinctive American writers, condemns his work as 'fantastic and meretricious throughout.' He is approached by Mr. Greenough White, with alliterative compassion, as 'poor Poe,' 'pessimistic Poe,'—and 'The Fall of the House of Usher' is preposterously discovered to be an allegory, shadowing autobiographically 'the burial of conscience, and the ruin resulting therefrom.' The present edition of Poe, with its commentaries, makes some amends for past ill-treatment. . . .

"Professor Woodberry, making Poe mainly a skilful artist, denies, in the 'Life,' that he ever experienced passion. So Mr. Stoddard: 'There is a simulation of emotion in it [the poetry], but the emotion is as imaginary as the method by which it is sought to be conveyed is artificial.' But Mr. Stedman, one is glad to note, takes the opposite view. The anecdote is well known of Poe's quivering gratitude for unwonted kindness received at the hands of Mrs. Stanard, who inspired the exquisite lyric 'To Helen,' and over whose grave the unforgetting boy used to brood by night. Many of Poe's published letters are written at so white a heat that the cold comma and period utterly fail to indicate the broken thought. He addressed his 'Eureka' 'to those who feel rather than to those who think,' and this without the capacity himself to feel! He declared in the preface to his poems that poetry had been with him 'not a purpose, but a passion,' and some would doubtless explain this as the trick of a passionless man! How can one receive the mournful cadences of 'Ulalume,'—that dirge to a dead wife out of a mood rejecting the possibility of a newer love—and deny the poet's volcanic passion? Even Mr. Woodberry, in his memoir, bears testimony to Poe's 'ardent temperament,' calls him 'impetuous, self-willed, defiant,' and quotes Mrs. Whitman concerning 'his turbulent and passionate youth.' In the words of his youthful poem, 'Romance':

'And when an hour with calmer wings
Its dawn upon my spirit flings—
That little time with lyre and rime
To while away—forbidden things!
My heart would feel to be a crime
Unless it trembled with the strings."

Mr. Maulsby takes occasion in this letter to briefly review the entire work of Poe, and to set forth what has been said for and

against him as a writer and as a man, and he again alludes to the rational character of Mr. Stedman's treatment of Poe, which he characterizes as "a delicate and sympathetic estimate." In conclusion Mr. Maulsby says:

"What are the grounds on which this unique writer, now enjoying a renaissance of his fame, may rest a claim to genius? We recognize with him that 'perseverance is one thing, genius quite another.' But to define genius is a desperate task. Still, among its trusty marks may be named intensity, a junction at some point with the infinite, and permanence of power. These three qualities are revealed in the work of Poe. Into his best writing he poured the whole of his life, containing springs of feebleness as well as of might, which rose from sources beyond his contriving. Such as it was, his inmost and hottest soul was concentrated upon the work of his hand. His thought joined too with the infinite and the immortal. Although pausing long at the brink of the grave, and noting too carefully the repulsive details of worm and shroud, it welcomed the life that is in death—the restful escape from 'the fever called Living.' The present publication is testimony that Poe's hold upon men is unweakened. Wrapped within those imaginative legends lies the touch that still moves, if but to shudder. Here is a man whose swelling ambition strove to do infinite things upon a finite stage. Let us accept him as a child of genius, and enshrine him forever as an eminent figure in the literature of our nation."

HUMOR THE GREAT TEST OF LITERATURE.

DR. A. CONAN DOYLE believes that no literary work can last long if it is not spiced with humor. He is so reported by his friend Mr. Hamilton W. Mabie, who contributes to *The Ladies' Home Journal* a letter detailing "an after-luncheon talk" between himself and Dr. Doyle, from which we quote:

"Dr. Doyle recurred several times during the conversation to American humor, of which his enjoyment is evidently very keen. He thinks that American humor is one of the most distinctive of American gifts. He notes its intellectual quality, its lightness and keenness, as illustrated in Dr. Holmes; its breadth and power of grotesque contrast, as illustrated in the more popular humorists; and its kinship to the deepest human feelings and to the pathos of common life, as illustrated in some of the Western humorists of the higher class. 'I believe,' he said, 'that humor is one of the great tests of literature. With two or three exceptions I do not recall any great writers who have not possessed it. It is one of the most distinctive qualities, and one in which racial difference and individual temperaments reveal themselves most clearly. It is one of the qualities which cannot be simulated, but which must be original. The humor of Shakespeare, of Dickens, of Thackeray, pervades their most original work.'

"In answer to the question as to his opinion with regard to two or three novels recently published, which have attracted wide attention by reason of their power and intensity, Dr. Doyle declared that he did not think that the reputation of these stories rested on a lasting basis, because they were defective in humor. The lightness of touch, the variety of interest, and the ease and freshness which go with humor are, in his judgment, very closely allied with it, and together they constitute the essential equipment of the literary artist. Without them in some form no book can endure as a work of art, however much ability it represents, or whatever toil be expended upon it."

In a review of the late Professor William Minto's "Literature of the Georgian Era," *The Speaker* says: "A professor who has to lecture is apt to invent a period for himself—a *terminus a quo* and a *terminus ad quem*. Mankind is fond of divisions—it counts by tens, and chops up old Father Time into centuries, which it endows with characteristics. Mr. Minto chose the Four Georges. Why did he do so? He says: 'The reign of the Four Georges really owes its completeness as a literary period to an accident. It so happened that Pope's masterpiece, 'The Rape of the Lock,' was published in its complete form in the first year of the first George; while the last year of the last George witnessed the publication of his first volume of poems by Lord Tennyson.' Such coincidences as these are simply bothersome. Who wants to associate 'The Rape of the Lock' in its completed form with the first George, or 'Poems by Two Brothers' with the last George? If it is helpful to the memory to call the period of time between 1714 and 1827 the Georgian period, let it be so called, and have done with it."

REFORMATION OF THE NOVEL.

LITERARY laymen are perhaps doing more than the professional critics in the way of fighting down pernicious novels. That the tide is turning and that the trash which has been heaped upon us is being washed away there can be no doubt. The paltry and vicious stuff created its own demand, but the appetite that it cultivated has been gorged, glutted, surfeited, and now it craves a wholesome antidote. We find in *The Interior*, Chicago, some reflections on "Modern Novels" which we reproduce as one phase of the present trend of criticism. *The Interior* says:

"Perhaps the life of no three centuries however remote from each other could give back stronger contrasts than the life of the present generation reflected in 'A Window in Thrums,' 'Trilby,' and 'Tarantin of Tarascon.' One would be strongly inclined to deny upon critical grounds the possibility of Barrie, Du Maurier, and Daudet being contemporaries. It is probably true that any age represents and embraces all ages. Paganism, Deism, and Christianity not only exist side by side but often under the same roof. Men's actual experience of life differs as widely as their ideals. To one man life is a farce, coarse, broad, brutal; to another it is a comedy with its play of light and shade, and to the third is tragedy too deep for tears.

"It is strange to an American who loves to think well of men and reverently of women, how Tarantin could ever have created for itself such a furore as it has in France, selling by the tens if not hundreds of thousands. Despite the brilliancy of its fancy and its constant play of humor, there is not a character in it that does not deserve the execration of every right-minded man. Its brightness is simply the phosphorescence of decay. Its men and women have not a trace of the moral consciousness in them, and are simply sensual and morally imbecile.

"It will be the fashion to applaud Trilby because it is a work of transcendent genius without an ethical purpose. Its plot is more ingenious than any of the later novels of George Eliot, and equal to the best of Thackeray. Its delineations of character are perfect without that weariness of detail into which the analytic student of character is prone to fall. There is not a dull page or a needless line in it; and it presents from first to last not a museum of moral monstrosities but a world of living men and women. What a pity then that its men and women have risen to a moral consciousness but fallen short of an ethical conscience. In the novel of the Frenchman right and wrong simply do not exist at all. In Trilby right and wrong are sentiments possessed of certain power and inspiring a certain respect or regret, but not principles commanding allegiance or abhorrence. Its grisettes reform without repentance; and the companions of their sins become model husbands and fathers of families whose very atmosphere is not French and Bohemian but Anglican and patrician.

"But in the Scotch novel we have not simply a work of art, we have a lesson of gentleness, patience, faith, and victory. The setting of the scene could not be humbler or less meretricious. The characters are at once plebeian and heroic. We have heavenly graces in homely lives. The reading of the book is as good as a soul tonic. It shows you the old pristine virtues still existent. It reveals the unconquerable soul amid innumerable trials. It makes you love God and honor your fellow men."

The writer regards the novelist as "preeminently the teacher of to-day," and says that upon him rest the most solemn responsibilities; that if he says to evil "Be thou my god," he will raise up a generation in which vice shall take the place that good men accord to virtue; but that if in his own soul the eternal distinctions between the divine and the devilish are sharply discerned, "he will teach men to love righteousness, to quench the violence of fire, to subdue kingdoms of iniquity, and establish the kingdom of God on earth." He further says that "next to the question of what novels to write, the present age must decide what novels to read, and from what sources to draw its conceptions of human life and its thoughts of the life to come."

The Ledger, Philadelphia, remarks that literature of every variety was never cheaper than now—that the "shilling shocker" and the "penny dreadful" are on every stall side by side with the choicest books, and goes on to say:

"To turn young men and women loose in this wilderness without guide or beacon is to commit a great wrong on the rising generation. The best antidote for a bad book in any department of literature is a good one, and in no department of literature is this statement more convincingly true than in fiction. Fortunate is the child who finds in his father's library a volume of Scott, Thackeray or Dickens, and who peoples his young fancy with the creations which these authors have made almost living personalities and familiar friends. M. Taine, who was an accomplished expert witness in such matters, and the more credible because he was not an Englishman, remarks that the novels of Charles Dickens can all be reduced to one phrase, 'Be good, and love.' He also says of Sir Walter Scott that he was the great novelist of manners, and started a great school of writers on contemporary life. These authors are mentioned in this connection as types of a class of romantic writers with which the young reader should make an early acquaintance."

Is Acting a Fine Art?—Henry Irving argues through eleven pages of *The Fortnightly Review* (March) that acting is a fine art, as surely so as poetry, music, sculpture, or painting. What is it, he asks, that is common to these arts? "It is the knowledge of the powers of nature, and the systematization of them in such a way that effects may be recurrent as required." This is as true of acting, he urges, as of anything else, and for those who deny it, he offers the following logical problem for solution:

"Hogarth painted a picture of David Garrick at a moment of his life and in such a way that all who ever saw him recognized the prototype of a certain historical character. No one denies—can deny—that this is a work of art. Now Shakespeare wrote a play in which Richard III. is a character. Can any one deny that this is a work of art? Garrick, in his playing, appeared on the stage in such wise that those who saw him knew that the man before them was the man Garrick, while at the same time he seemed by many signs and in many ways to be the image, copy—what you will—of Shakespeare's Richard III., though Garrick gave his Shakespeare adulterated with Cibber. Yet Garrick's work in producing this impression was, we are to be told, not a work of art. Why it was not so I leave those to say who assert that acting is not an art. But let me point out to such that they will have this difficulty to encounter—if Garrick's purposed labor was not the exercise of an art, what was it? If the product of such purposed labor was not a work of art, what was it?"

NOTES.

TWO rather pleasing *mots* are just beginning to be circulated, though neither has yet appeared in print. The first is from the other side of the Atlantic and is ascribed to Whistler, who, being asked what he thought of Mr. Oscar Wilde, replied: "Wilde? Oh, he is *le bourgeois malgré lui*!" The second is the dictum of a distinguished American man of letters who was questioned as to his opinion of Mr. Henry James's published plays. "Well," he said, after a moment's reflection, "there seems to be only three objections to make to them. The first is that they are unactable; the second is that they are unreadable; and the third is that they are unspeakable!"—*The Bookman*.

PERCY ADDLESHAW says in *The Academy*, of Grant Allen's new novel, "The Woman Who Did": "Whatever may be said against Mr. Grant Allen's last novel—and many people will find it irritating and aggressive—it has the merit of being courageously honest. One other distinguished virtue it possesses, despite the series into which it is pitchforked and the subject with which it deals: there is not a sensual thought or suggestion throughout the whole volume. However the reader may protest against Mr. Grant Allen's views and sympathies, these qualities go far to soften anger."

JOACHIM is now winning laurels and dollars in London. Did you ever hear the anecdote about Joachim and a London barber? The great violinist is said to have once visited a barber in that city to get his hair cut. He is in the habit of wearing it rather long behind, and intimated as much to the barber, whereupon that individual promptly replied: "I wouldn't wear it too long, mister; if you do you'll look just like one o' them fiddlin' chaps."—*The Musical Courier*.

A REMARKABLE literary find is reported from Dublin. In the library of Trinity College was recently discovered a manuscript volume of 500 folio pages, written in the seventeenth century, containing unpublished poetry by Bacon, Massinger, and many minor authors. The poem by Bacon, written after his fall, is entitled "Farewell to Fortune." An event like this will serve to remind the world that something new about Shakespeare's works and personal history is by no means outside the range of probability.—*The Ledger*, Philadelphia.

SCIENCE.

WHAT DO WE INHERIT FROM OUR PARENTS?

NOTHING is more common than to hear it said of a child who is a clever performer on the piano, "She gets that from her mother, who was also a fine player." What is it that the child inherits from her mother? Is it merely the natural aptitude to learn piano-playing, or is it the ability to play, acquired by the mother at the expense of years of practise? The whole scientific world is rent asunder over this question. It is divided into two hostile camps, those who affirm that the child can inherit, in some degree, the skill acquired by its ancestors, and those who affirm that it can never do so, and that the child would have been quite as apt a learner had the mother never seen or heard of a piano. It is obvious that this question is of vital importance, for on it depend the answers to many educational and sociological problems. It is treated in *Harper's Magazine*, March, by St. George Mivart, perhaps the most eminent living opponent of Charles Darwin and his school, and one of the ablest philosophical thinkers of our time. The question is stated by him as follows:

"Can we by taking thought, can we by any amount of self-culture, however continuous and persevering, add to the stature, moral or material, of our offspring and descendants? May we hope that the child of several generations of toiling and striving progenitors will come into the world favorably modified, in however slight a degree, through such successive voluntary efforts? If not, must we resign ourselves to the conviction that all our endeavors will and must be forever in vain, and that an inexorable fatality forbids to the progeny of well-doers the slightest congenital advantage on account of characters their parents have acquired by virtuous efforts, any more than congenital disadvantage from parental characters which are the outcome of a willing surrender to vice and sloth?

"This is surely a very practical question, and it is also one of the grounds of which are vehemently debated in the scientific world at this moment—the question, 'Can acquired character be inherited?'

"It is not, however, from human characteristics and family histories that an answer has been sought, but rather from observations and experiments on various kinds of lowly organized animals. It is, in fact, a problem which has come to the front through changes and developments of opinion, and resulting contests, which have taken and are taking place among the disciples and followers of the late Mr. Charles Darwin.

"As most of our readers doubtless know, Darwin was preceded in his speculations about the 'origin of species' by the French naturalist Lamarck. The last-named and earlier writer attributed the transformation of species to modifications of habit due to efforts newly called forth in different creatures by changes which happened to have taken place in their surroundings. The modifications of structure thus induced were, he taught, transmitted by parent animals to their offspring, and became intensified wherever such newly induced efforts and habits were maintained from generation to generation by a continuation of those changed conditions of environment which first called them forth. Thus it was, according to Lamarck, that birds which found it necessary to move about in water gradually became web-footed. Thus also the giraffe, continuing to have need to reach much upward in order to obtain food, acquired its long neck and very elongated legs. Thus again the first men, finding under new conditions that even a short tail was an inconvenient member, gradually lost that appendage altogether. That characters so gained or lost by animals tended to reappear or disappear in their descendants was the essence of the Lamarckian position.

"Darwin to a certain extent availed himself of this hypothesis, and in his 'Origin of Species' he brings forward many examples of what he believed to be modifications of form or function due to change in external conditions, and transmitted subsequently to the offspring of parents so modified. Thus he speaks of dogs in Mexico, cats on the coast of Africa, oysters in the Mediterranean Sea, which he regarded as rapidly modified in one or other respect by changed condition, such modifications being perpetuated in

their descendants. Nevertheless, though Darwin rested his theory in part on such a Lamarckian support, he based it mainly on his own special conception—namely, on the action of 'natural selection.'

"Affirming that every part of every kind of animal is liable to slight indefinite variations, practically accidental, and taking place in all directions, he taught that it was the destructive agencies ever at work in nature which caused the individuals with unfavorable variations to disappear, while it preserved those whose fortuitous modifications were useful to it, as proved by the very fact of its surviving."

Thus, Mr. Mivart reminds us, Darwin's theory is built upon two pillars, natural selection and the inheritance of acquired characters. An extreme section of his followers, however, have rejected the latter entirely, and believe exclusively in the former. A leader among these is Professor Weismann, the German biologist, who has developed an elaborate theory of heredity according to which the inheritance of an acquired character would be impossible. A large part of Mr. Mivart's article is devoted to an attack on this theory, and he believes that he has demonstrated its non-agreement with facts and its inherent falsity. We have not space to follow him here, but will content ourselves with giving one of his illustrations:

"As most of our readers doubtless know, the young of the frog and toad leave the egg as tadpoles, which not only differ from the mature form in shape of body, but also in having gills on either side of the neck, whereby the young animals breathe in water, while they only acquire lungs for breathing air later on. Most efts, when they leave the egg, also have a tadpole stage of existence, during which they breathe by gills, which are subsequently absorbed when the lungs become fully developed.

"The land salamander (an animal found from Holland to North Africa) differs, however, from ordinary efts in that it does not lay eggs, but gives birth to living young, which have no gills, but breathe by means of lungs from the first. Nevertheless, its young, previous to birth, do possess gills, and gills of relatively large size, but which are absorbed before the young are born.

"Now it occurred to a certain German lady to try the experiment of removing such young gilled tadpoles of the land salamander from the body of the mother, in order to see whether they would then breathe in water and live. They did so, but were very much inconvenienced by the relatively great size of their gills. But she found that by degrees these large organs disappeared, and that they were replaced by other small and convenient secondary gills, and thus new structures became developed which had not previously existed in that species.

"Whence did these structures arise? (1) They could not have come from ancestral *idants*, *ids*, and *biophors* [microscopic bodies that play a considerable part in Weismann's theory of heredity] for they were novel structures. (2) They could never have been 'naturally selected,' for it is utterly incredible that any individual salamanders should have survived through the possession of organic particles capable of developing into such secondary gills should the young be prematurely removed from the body of the parent. Such a thing could hardly ever have taken place naturally. Nevertheless (3) they appeared rapidly when the organism was exposed to such new external conditions.

"Now we are far from affirming that either the water in which the young were kept, or any irritation produced by the large primary gills, were more than stimuli, occasioning the development of the small secondary gills. We do not say that such stimuli were the cause. The cause we believe to have been a power or capacity latent in the young salamanders. But that power or capacity could, as just said, never have been produced or acquired by any 'natural selection,' whatever may have been the agency which did produce it.

Mr. Mivart's conclusion is, then, that acquired characters are handed down from generation to generation, for all attempts to explain the facts on any other hypothesis have been failures.

THE project to build an aerial tramway at Niagara Falls is likely to be carried out the coming Summer, according to *The Railway Review*. The plan is to run a cage-like car on a huge cable strung across the river immediately over the falls. It will be operated by electricity.

THE MAN AT THE LITTLE END OF THE TELESCOPE.

WE Americans are charged with believing that everything may be bought for money. There is some truth in the charge; for instance, it is a popular idea that because we are able to buy the largest telescopes in the world, that fact insures our supremacy in astronomy. In an article on "The Study of Physical Astronomy" in *Popular Astronomy*, March, by Professor See of the University of Chicago, the absurdity of such an idea is exposed, and we are given some serious food for thought. We quote below some paragraphs from the concluding part:

"One popular error is so widespread that it may not be out of place to call attention to it, partly in explanation of the present condition of American astronomy, and partly in order that so great a folly may not continue to hinder the progress of science. It is well known that this country has more large telescopes than all the rest of the world combined, and yet our contributions to science have been relatively meager, and almost wholly of an observational character. We have indeed produced a number of excellent observers, because no great mathematical training is required for such work, but we have developed precious few eminent mathematical astronomers, and even these have been less honored at home than abroad. For example, how many of the readers of this journal know anything of the great work of Dr. G. W. Hill, who is regarded in Europe as the greatest mathematical astronomer whom our country has yet produced? How many have even heard of the name of this great successor of Newton and Laplace, whose work in time to come will be ranked on a level with that of Hansen and Gauss, Adams and Leverrier? We think that all will agree that it is very unbecoming to the dignity of American science that so great a man shall live in our midst and by his labors do honor to America, while not only his work, but even his name, is less familiar here than it is in London and Paris, Berlin and St. Petersburg. The public seems to have labored under the impression that nothing is required for the cultivation of astronomy but a big telescope, the astronomer at the little end of the instrument never being for a moment considered. The idea is that with a big telescope one can look through and 'see' the heavenly bodies! Is it not necessary to have a mind capable of interpreting what is 'seen'? Does it ever occur to those persons who endeavor to advance science by building large telescopes and observatories that in order to do scientific work of the highest order something is required besides a big glass? We need a Struve, a Bessel, or a Gauss at the little end of the telescope; we need a Laplace, a Leverrier, or a Hill to discuss the observations obtained. But unfortunately too often no adequate provision is made for running our observatories, for maintaining a force of skilled astronomers sufficient to get the best results from the work of research that could be undertaken. The result is that most of our observatories are doing about one half or one third of the work they could do if adequately supported. On the other hand a few observatories have abundant means, and yet for some reason little or nothing is done for the cultivation of exact astronomy, or for the reduction of observational material which has accumulated. These and other unfortunate circumstances have brought about the present peculiar condition of American astronomy, which authorities like Gould and Chandler recognize as positively deplorable."

AN EXPLOSIVE FRUIT.

IN a recent article on the dissemination of the seeds of plants we described several species having explosive capsules whose sudden bursting scatters the contained seeds far and wide. An allied phenomenon is described by J. Poisson in *La Nature*, Paris, February 2, from which we reproduce an illustration and translate the accompanying text:

"A correspondent of M. Gaston Tissandier [editor of *La Nature*] sent him recently from Batavia a small number of dry pods having the form and color of miniature cigars about 3 centimeters ($1\frac{1}{4}$ inches) long. These little pods have the singular property of exploding with a noise when they are placed in a vessel of water. A drinking-glass suffices. If one of the pods is left thus,

it floats quietly on the water for two, three, five minutes or more, when it suddenly bursts with violence, throwing out one of its two valves, as well as most of the seeds that it contains. It is not necessary to say that this bursting is due to elasticity. . . .

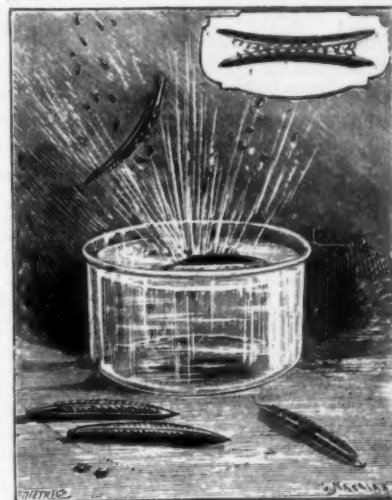
"The *Acanthaceæ*, the family to which they belong, have fruits composed of two carpels, whose opening at maturity takes place from above downward, disclosing two divergent crescents [see illustration] and proceeding from a common point.

"When the fruits ripen on the plant the opening takes place with a slight noise and part of the seeds are thrown out, but much less violently than when the pod is placed on water.

"The liquid, in the last case, is absorbed easily by the dry but permeable tissue of the surface of the fruit, especially along the grooves that correspond to the lines of separation of the two valves. Now, as the internal tissue is hard and woody, as it is not in equilibrium with the external tissue, which is being quickly softened, the tension exerted by the former leads to a violent bursting.

"The seeds themselves are not altogether without interest. As soon as they are in contact with the water, epidermic cellules, forming a sort of case, appear at once around each of them. These take the form that they have when the fruit is fresh; they are mucilaginous and cause the seeds to stick to whatever they touch.

"In the vegetable kingdom there are found a certain number of fruits that explode by various processes and that belong to divers families. Their rupture has for its object the dissemination of the seeds. It is remarkable among the *Balsams* named by the botanists, because of this fact, *Impatiens*. Many leguminous plants are in the same class and also certain *cucurbitaceæ* [plants of the Gourd family]. Finally, the Sablier (*Hura crepitans*) of the family of *Euphorbiaceæ* [the Spurge family] opens its fruit with such force as to break fragile objects within reach of its carpels, which it hurls in all directions. The new fruits described in this article seem to belong to the genus *Justicia* and probably to the species named *Justicia grandiflora*, as well as it is possible to judge from the capsules alone. This phenomenon perhaps takes place also with other fruits of the *Acanthaceæ* [the Acanthus family], but much less noticeably than with the species described in this article."



Dry Explosive Pods of *Justicia*.

Penetration of Bullets in Snow.—Some curious tests have been made lately of the penetration of projectiles in snow. According to the report in *Cosmos*, Paris, the Lebel rifle was the weapon used, and some snow heaps, from one to two yards thick, were placed on the firing range, situated near Aurillac, and fired at from a distance of fifty yards. It was found that the bullet had stopped at a depth of about five feet. It is believed that the great velocity of the projectile and its rotation (2,500 turns) attracts to it particles of frost and minute icicles, which end by forming a ball and practically annihilate its penetration. In commenting on the experiments, *Industries and Iron*, London, March 1, speaks as follows: "To render these tests intelligible, at the same time, it is necessary to be acquainted with the condition of the snow, its density, and compactness; whether it was dry or charged with moisture. It is obvious that, according to the circumstances, the snow might either approximate to a block of solid ice or be a mere flocculent mass, and in the absence of these details the experiments, though undoubtedly of interest, are of little or no practical value."

According to *Industries and Iron* about three tons of platinum are used annually in America for the manufacture of incandescent lamps and other electric purposes, while one ton is used "for the more prosaic but no less useful purpose of being made into parts of artificial teeth."

WHAT IS THE SHAPE OF THE UNIVERSE?

THE answer to this question will depend largely on what meaning we give to the word "universe." If we denote by it the sum of created material things, no answer can ever be given, for we know not whether it may not be infinite, or, if not, how far it extends beyond the reach of our most powerful telescopes. But if we mean by it the system of celestial bodies visible to us, then we may try to answer the question, for astronomers have held that these bodies form one or more great groups having some sort of connection between their parts. The question is peculiarly interesting, because an English physicist, Mr. Tolver Preston, is now advocating a theory of gravitation according to which the most distant stars do not attract one another at all. An examination of the evidence on the subject has just been made by Professor Kapteyn, of Groningen, Germany, and his methods and results are given by Dr. J. E. Gore, the eminent English astronomer, in an article in *Knowledge*, January 1, from which we quote the following paragraphs:

"It must first be explained that, in order to obtain a clear view of the construction of the visible heavens, it would be necessary to know the relative distances of a large number of stars; but as the distances of only a few stars have yet been determined, and the results hitherto obtained are open to much uncertainty, we must have recourse to some other method of estimating these distances. In traveling in a railway carriage, if we fix our attention on the trees, buildings, and other objects we pass on our journey, it will be noticed that all objects apparently move past in the opposite direction to that in which we are traveling, and that the nearer the object is the faster it seems to move with reference to distant objects near the horizon. So it is with the stars. The Sun is moving through space, carrying along with it the Earth and all the planets, satellites, and comets forming the solar system. The effect of this motion is to cause an apparent small motion of the stars in the opposite direction, and the nearer the star is to the earth the greater will this apparent motion seem to be—as in the case of the railway train. In addition to this apparent motion, the stars are themselves—like the Sun—moving through space, and this *real* motion is also visible. If this *real* motion takes place in the *opposite* direction to that in which the Earth is moving it will add to the apparent motion, and will increase the 'proper motion,' as it is termed. If, on the other hand, the real motion is in the same direction as the Earth's motion, it will tend to diminish the proper motion. In either case, the nearer the star is to the Earth the greater will be its apparent annual displacement on the background of the heavens. The amount of the 'proper motion' is, therefore, considered by astronomers to form a reliable criterion of the star's distance from the Earth, and the actual measures of distance which have been made show that this assumption is approximately true. . . ."

The concluding paragraph of the article is as follows:

"The general conclusions to be derived from the above results seem to be that the Sun is a member of a cluster of stars possibly distributed in the form of a ring, and that outside this ring, at a much greater distance from us than the stars of the solar cluster, lies a considerably richer ring-shaped cluster, the light of which, reduced to nebulousness by immensity of distance, produces the Milky Way gleam of our midnight skies."

DANGER FROM TOO MUCH NUTRIMENT.

OVER-EATING is generally condemned on the ground that by stuffing the digestive organs or by giving them too much work to do the food taken is prevented from properly nourishing him who takes it. It is possible, however, that one may suffer from too much nutriment as well as from too little, even when it is properly assimilated. We quote from *Modern Medicine*, January, a few editorial remarks embodying this view, which will be to most persons a new and even a surprising one:

"Some years ago, Sir William Roberts, the eminent English physiologist, called attention to the fact that one of the greatest dangers of our modern civilization is over-nutrition through ex-

cessive alimentation. As a remedy, Dr. Roberts advocated the use of alcohol, whereby, according to him, an undue and dangerously accelerated nutrition might be inhibited, so to speak, by producing a mild form of indigestion. The remedy proposed is, to the writer's mind, highly objectionable; nevertheless, the fact stated is a patent one. The gout and rheumatism, which have been shown by Savory to be well-nigh universal in England, are certainly due to the excessive consumption of nitrogenous material in the form of roast beef and other meat dishes.

"Bradent, the eminent authority on cancer, also attributes cancer to the too free use of meat. He asserts that the excessive use of meat generates an undue power in the epithelium, which, in consequence, grows in instead of out, crowds upon and chokes the weaker structures beneath, and reaching the lymphatic channels, travels along them to the lymphatic glands. Here the neoplastic cell obtains a firm foothold, and takes on so extensive development that cancer is the result.

"Dr. Lamb, an eminent English physician, many years ago recommended a vegetarian regimen as a means of combating cancer, and reported so many cases that were favorably influenced thereby, that his treatment was adopted by his famous contemporary, Dr. Abernethy.

"In a recent article, Dr. Waugh asserts that he is convinced that excessive meat-eating is a cause of cancer. More than one eminent physician has ascribed cancer to the free use of pork. The relation of diet to chronic maladies is a subject which affords a most promising field for observation and experiment."

PREVENTION AND STOPPAGE OF LEAKS IN VESSELS WITH CELLULOSE.

THE old naval warfare was purely an effort to see which side could first sink or disable the other's vessel. No attempt was made to keep out hostile shots, and very little to repair the damage made by them. In more modern times we armor our ships heavily to keep out projectiles, but, despairing of being able to do this effectively and completely, we are turning our attention to methods designed to render penetration ineffective. One of the most interesting plans for stopping the leaks made by an enemy's shots is described by Leo Dex in the *Revue Encyclopédique*, Paris. We translate below the principal parts of his article:

"In 1881, a cyclone having greatly damaged the quays of the port of Noumea, some one proposed to repair them provisionally with the débris of the woody substance that surrounds the cocoonut. This material is extremely light, very elastic, and not susceptible to decay, and has the curious property of absorbing water, taking it up in large quantities, and thus opposing its passage almost completely. It may be said, then, that thus by chance light was thrown upon a property of the cellulose made from cocoonut husks, whose utilization may one day radically transform the art of naval war.

"At present the cocoonut cellulose, before employment for stopping leaks, undergoes a preparation that permits its properties to be made use of to the best possible advantage. This preparation consists in the first place in the selection of nuts that are ripe and unspoiled by water, then in a mechanical chipping or ravelling followed by a pounding and a passage through a sieve, which separates the amorphous cellulose from the fibers and from a substance called 'powder,' finer than the cellulose itself. The latter now remains mixed only with an undefined waxy or fatty substance to which it appears to owe its elasticity and its resistance to imbibition. The remainder of the process is kept secret by the firm of Torrilhon, to whom patents assure the exclusive manufacture of this curious material. The powdered cellulose is finally mixed with the fiber of the nut in proper proportions and subjected to hydraulic pressure.

"Amorphous cellulose does not decay, and is not attacked by insects. Even after compression its density is less than that of linen. Besides, it appears to be able to keep its valuable qualities indefinitely.

"Some years after this chance discovery, numerous experiments were made, both in France and abroad, to see whether these properties of amorphous cocoonut cellulose could be utilized for

the protection of war-vessels, and whether it really would render them unsinkable . . . as the Torrilhon patents claimed.

"In France the experiments made at Toulon by order of the Ministry of Marine related entirely to its use in war. Caissons three or four feet thick were filled with the material compressed hydraulically and then arranged along pontoons, being held firmly by spars attached to the pontoons.

"Direct and oblique shots were fired at these from guns of large caliber, both non-explosive and explosive projectiles being used.

"It appears from these experiments that the damage done to a ship by a projectile striking her in a vital part not only would not be great enough to sink her even if she were not built with compartments, but even would not make much trouble by altering her conditions of floatability and navigability, since the continuity of her hull would be reestablished after the passage of the shot, if her sides were furnished with a lining of compressed cellulose $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

MEDICAL ART AMONG THE INDIANS.

WE are not apt to give the red man credit for very scientific ideas regarding medicine—in fact, we generally regard him as totally ignorant of real curative art and as relying wholly on magic. This is due to the fact that the person called by us a "medicine man" is the Indian shaman or conjuror. These wizards, though they pretend to drive away disease by their magic arts, are not the true Indian doctors, so says Dr. W. Thornton Parker in *The Medical Times*. Dr. Parker gives us a much more favorable idea of the state of the healing art among our aborigines, and to those who recollect that our forefathers learned the use of many valuable specifics from them his contentions will appear reasonable. He says:

"Many of the real doctors, forty or fifty years ago, and in rare instances some of them can be found among Indians to-day, possessed medical and even surgical knowledge of no mean value. These men knew little of mineral remedies, but possessed remarkable knowledge of roots and herbs. These doctors practically served an apprenticeship; they studied, not from books, but from the hearing and learning of lessons taught them by their seniors, by the wise men. As the warrior learned woodcraft and to be skilful in battle, the orator learned the value of words and the art of elocution at the council fire, the hunter gave years to the mysteries and dangers of the chase, so the medicine man, or doctor, sought for rare and valuable herbs in mountain and valley, and learned from the wise the art of combining them in healing proportions to form a health- and life-giving elixir.

"The purging and sweating remedies of the Indians are very reliable.

"There are also remedies for the cure of vesical and urethral inflammations, alterative remedies, expectorants, external applications for bruises and wounds; poisons, to be used for their subtle toxic effects, and also remedies to counteract the poisonous bites of serpents, etc.

"Counter-irritation, the use of the actual cautery, are also practised; surgical appliances, apparatus for the conduct of childbirth, methods for the comfortable transportation of the wounded, and last, but not least, considerable surgical skill in the extraction of bullets, arrowheads, etc. The hygiene practised among Indians . . . [is] remarkably identical with that contained in the Bible for the government of the ancient Israelites. The manhood, self-control, and general intelligence of our North American Indians should not fail to win our cordial esteem."

The Wood Leopard Moth.—The borer of shade-trees known by this name has been introduced from Europe, and is doing great damage in the parks of New York, Brooklyn, and adjacent cities. According to *Insect Life*, "the moths make their appearance in May or June, continuing through July and into August, and are readily attracted to light. It has become the most common species seen around the electric lights in the cities named, and each moth represents a larva that has fed for at least two years in the wood of a neighboring tree, while every female represents the possibility of hundreds of other larvæ to follow the same life his-

tory. The eggs are laid by the female moth on the branches, probably placed just into the bark, and the young larvæ bore at once into the wood, usually at the crotch of a small branch, or at a node, and work downward, sometimes just under the bark, sometimes in the solid wood. They grow apace and get into larger branches, still working downward as a whole, but often varying in course; sometimes making it circular, so as to girdle the stick they feed in. For at least two years they feed, rarely emerging from the burrow, though they do occasionally come out for the purpose of changing their quarters and beginning their destructive work elsewhere. Then they change to somewhat slender brown pupæ, and these wriggle themselves through the bark in due season, and soon after the moths emerge."

According to *The American Naturalist* the larvæ may be destroyed by pouring a little bisulphid of carbon in the burrows and then plugging the outer openings of the latter with putty.

The Poisonous Principle in Tobacco.—"Nicotin," says *The British Medical Journal*, March 2, "is not, as used to be supposed, the most dangerous principle [of tobacco], but pyridin and collodin. Nicotin is the product of the cigar and cigarette; pyridin, which is three or four times more poisonous, comes out of the pipe. It would be well both for the devotees of tobacco and their neighbors if they took care always to have the smoke filtered through cotton wool or other absorbent material before it is allowed to pass the 'barrier of the teeth.' Smokers might also take a lesson from the unspeakable Turk, who never smokes a cigarette to the end, but usually throws it away when little more than half is finished. If these precautions were more generally observed, we should hear much less of the evil effects of smoking on the nerves and heart, and on the tongue itself."

The Formation of Hail.—Mr. Hess discusses in the *Naturwissenschaftliche Wochenschrift* the conditions under which were formed the hail-storms reported during 1883-93 by the Zurich Meteorological Bureau. The conclusion of this discussion is that hail is more frequent in valleys than on mountains, where the hail is often changed into sleet or rain. Falls of hail take place oftener near marshes and in lake-basins than in wooded regions, although the valleys of rivers that extend in the direction of the storm favor the formation of hail. The passage of the storm over a cultivated or wooded region gives rise to a tendency to diminution of intensity and sometimes even causes the hail to cease.—*Translated and Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

SCIENCE NOTES.

HERR OECHELHAUSER, who has made an investigation into the natural gas supply of the United States, points out, according to *Industries and Iron*, "that the 35,000 horse-power which it is proposed to convey from Niagara to Buffalo are thrown into the shade by the 70,000 horse-power which is now actually being conveyed from Indiana to Chicago by the natural gas-pipe lines. The gas is sold at 50 cents per 1,000 cubic feet. The conclusion Herr Oechelhauser arrives at, after an exhaustive study of the question in the States, is that, even at 5 cents per 1,000 cubic feet, natural gas cannot compete with coal as a heating agent. He also finds that American experience shows large fluctuations in the demand for heating-gas, particularly among the larger consumers, on every occasion of fluctuation in the external temperature; so that there can be no question of equalizing the consumption by pushing the use of gas as a heating agent."

The Journal de l'Horlogerie says that a new alloy has been discovered which is a substitute for gold. It consists of 94 parts of copper to 6 parts of antimony. The copper is melted and the antimony is then added. Once the two metals are sufficiently fused together, a little magnesium and carbonate of lime are added to increase the density of the material. The product can be drawn, wrought and soldered like gold, which it almost exactly resembles on being polished. Even when exposed to the action of ammoniacal salts or nitrous vapors it preserves its color. The cost of making it is about 25 cents a pound.

The plan devised by Professor I. Blake, of the Kansas State University, says *Electricity*, for telephoning to a vessel anchored a long distance off the coast, has been successfully tested at Sandy Hook between the shore and Scotland lightship, several miles off. "The difficulty presented by the vessel's continual change of position was the problem to be solved in getting the current from the cable at the bottom of the sea to the deck. Professor Blake has solved this by attaching to the anchor another chain leading a sufficient distance toward the shore to avoid any disturbance by the movements of the vessel, and using the chains for transmission of the current to the deck from the connected cable."

THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

COLONEL INGERSOLL TROUNCED.

TO hear Col. Robert G. Ingersoll's public addresses on the subject of religion characterized as "blasphemous" is nothing new. In fact it would be rather difficult to say anything quite new by way of denunciation of Colonel Ingersoll, for he has from time to time received the critical attentions of every style of writer, from the scholarly and polite controversialist down to the coarse lampoonist. Nevertheless, the Rev. William Ashmore contributes to *The Christian Inquirer* (Baptist) a few remarks concerning the Colonel which are spirited enough to freshly arouse interest. Referring to Colonel Ingersoll's latest public lecture in New York, Mr. Ashmore writes:

"Such an audience, gathered to hear such a man, in such a place, on such a subject, was a pitiable sight even for New York City. That it was blasphemy gone to seed was about all expected, but it was something else besides that—it was coarseness and vulgarity and low buffoonery gone mad. As a buffoon on that night, Colonel Ingersoll outdid himself. For when a man starts out to deal with some sober, ponderous, and momentous question, people expect him to have something serious to offer, and to try, at least, to shed a little light into a dark place. When he fails utterly in that, and has nothing to exhibit but the jokes and antics of a clown exhibiting for fifty cents a head, then as a clown people will rate him."



William Ashmore

Mr. Ashmore adjures us to think of this matter, reminding us that "these problems of human destiny are serious questions," that they have appealed to the sober thought of truly wise men in all ages, and that "none but a fool seeks to make sport of them." He points to the ancient philosophers—Plato, Socrates, Aristotle, Demosthenes, Cicero, Marcus Aurelius, and others—who have dealt with these subjects in the most dignified thoughtfulness. He cites great heathen leaders, like Zoroaster, Sakyamuni, Confucius, and Mencius, who faced these awful problems, but always soberly, seriously, and anxiously, even when most mistakenly. He continues:

"They never turned mountebank, they never giggled on the edge of the grave, they never answered their inquiring pupils with a joke and a grimace in order to draw from them a guffaw of senseless laughter. As for the men of intellect and weight of character in our own lands they have not agreed on explanations to be given, but they have agreed in the reality of these stupendous issues, and in the conviction that they are too intensely momentous to be treated in any other than a candid and cautious spirit. Such men as Shakespeare, and Bacon, and Burke, and Brougham, and Scott, and Hale, and Washington, and Webster, and thousands like them have all stood together here. Men like Jefferson and Franklin may have been inclined to skepticism in some things, but they always spoke soberly and never indulged in idiotic mirth. To the minds of them all it was apparent that we are in a world of unsolved problems; that there has been an awful catastrophe of some kind in the history of the past is what is universally admitted; that we are suffering the painful consequences now in our own selves is what none deny; that there is, or ought to be, some door of deliverance is what all fondly hope

for. Whence came we? Whither are we bound? Who will show us any good? Who can help this poor, crushed, shuddering, suffering race?

"Who can point to a helper? We will stand hushed in silence while you speak. This is the sober voice of humanity to-day, in Christian and in heathen lands, in the heart of Asia and in the heart of America. Men differ in the answer to be given. Christians declare confidently that they have a key to the whole mystery, and can tell of One upon whom help has been laid and who is mighty to save. Followers of other religions will not accept this, but have other solutions to offer. Mohammedans, Parsees, Hindus, Buddhists, Confucianists, Shintoists, and Agnostics, who, like Pilate, ask mournfully, 'What is truth?' All these there are; and there are brainy men of our own kith and kin in America and Europe whose minds are not at rest, and who, after their several theories, express themselves in books and magazines and reviews. But in all the clash of opinion and interchange of articles there is maintained a dignified seriousness. The subject is felt to be one of infinite weight and one calling for infinite soberness of thought and feeling. In it all there are no jokes of the circus type, no crackling of thorns under a pot, no laughter at fools, no badinage at a death-bed, no dancing of jigs at a funeral."

Mr. Ashmore here sets forth and analyzes the substitute that Colonel Ingersoll offers the world and asks it to accept in place of Christianity; and he reduces this proffered substitute to the sensual doctrine of "Eat, drink, and be merry." In closing he says:

"Alas for his audience—some went from curiosity, but the majority of them because they love to have it so. The scoffers, the infidels, the saloon men, the courtizans, the gamblers, the agnostics, the 'haters of God,' are always in full force when he speaks. The blind leader of the blind goes blundering along the edge of the ditch, and the poor blinded crowd come tumbling after. 'Their foot shall slide in due time.'"

ANOTHER THEORY OF THE FLOOD.

WE recently gave some space to an exposition of a theory of M. Raymond de Girard, having for its object to justify and explain the Scriptural account of the Noachian deluge. Now we are presented with another by Herr F. von Schwarz, based upon a discovery made by him during a recent exploration in Central Asia, which discovery he enthusiastically compares with the discovery of the law of gravitation by Newton. Unlike M. de Girard he makes no particular attempt to fit his theory to the Scriptural narrative, but claims only that it explains the tradition of a great deluge common to all Aryan and Semitic peoples. We quote below from *Gaea*, Leipsic, January, a review of Schwarz's work, "The Flood and the Dispersion," Stuttgart, 1894.

Herr Schwarz's theory is that Africa was the original home of the human race, and that the first men were black. At the time of the Flood, however, he supposes Central Asia to have been the seat of a large population. The review of his work proceeds as follows:

"Von Schwarz . . . assumes that primitive man left his home only when compelled by very urgent circumstances. 'It is, indeed, commonly assumed,' says he, 'that a desire for wandering is inborn in man, and this is proved by the example of the nomadic tribes, who, it is said, lead their wandering life only from inborn taste for it and from aversion to labor. That this assumption is false, any one may see who will take the trouble to study the life of the nomads. The nomads of Central Asia, for instance, among whom I lived fifteen years and who are universally regarded as the most thoroughgoing of all wandering tribes, lead their nomadic life reluctantly, from pure necessity, and for the sole reason that they would otherwise have to go hungry.'"

Primitive man, then, we are told, would never have left Central Asia, as comparative philology shows that he did, to scatter himself over the greater part of Europe, had he not been driven thence. The great catastrophe that compelled the dispersion is identified by Schwarz with the Flood. What it was and how it

occurred, his discovery revealed to him for the first time. This discovery was made while he was investigating a rocky hill in Central Asia, marked wrongly on the Russian charts as the site of the ruins of Kaptagai. The Russian surveyors, as he learned from his guides, did not approach near it, and were evidently misled by the extraordinary resemblance of its naked rocks to the walls of a ruined city with towers and battlements. We quote from Schwarz's account:

"When I had passed this rocky wall I found myself in a broad, deep valley, extending north and south and shut in by perpendicular walls of rock at whose feet flowed a slender rivulet. This valley was the oddest that I have ever seen in my life. Though the brook had so little water that only in the deepest part was there enough for a sitz-bath, and the valley was so broad and deep that a navigable river might have flowed through it, the rocky walls on both sides, up to the upper edge, were torn apart and eroded in such fashion as I have noticed near no other river and as only happens on a rocky seashore—commonly, indeed, only on a shore where the breakers are very powerful."

No explanation of this extraordinary action occurred to him till the following September, when he ascended to the summit of Mount Kaptagai, whence a wide and beautiful prospect is to be obtained. He goes on to say:

"I noticed on the Tjanschan mountain, which lay opposite me, a characteristic line, traced always at the same height, and dividing the mountain into two very distinct parts. The upper half, above this line, was of dark color and composed apparently of old, cleft, and weatherbeaten rock; the part lying below was of gray tint and seemed to be covered with sand, clay, and gravel. . . . The most distant rocks that lay beneath the above-mentioned mark were gray, eroded cones which were so exactly like rocky reefs washed by the sea that my Cossack guide could not help exclaiming, 'There we can see just how high the Flood reached.'"

This mark, we are told, was visible on all the neighboring mountains that were of sufficient height to overtop it. The conclusion was irresistible; Schwarz states it thus:

"The . . . marks could be nothing else but water-marks, and the whole of Dschungaria and the part of Mongolia bordering on it . . . must accordingly have been covered by the sea up to the height of this mark, which lay considerably above the point where I stood. The existence of but a single mark, and the wide inlet between Alatau and Barlyk, which lies at nearly equal height with Dschungaria, showed that this sea had not been dried up, but had suddenly flowed out and must have overflowed the Balkash plain and the whole Uralo-Caspian lowland. This outflow evidently took place through the inlet just mentioned, and the enormous mass of water, which covered all Central Asia and formed a sea of the size of the present Mediterranean, rushed over Mount Kaptagai in a stream at least 25 kilometers (15 miles) wide and 4,000 to 5,000 feet deep, with a swiftness of which the speed of a rushing mountain torrent, or even of a cataract, can give only a feeble idea. . . . The facts that the Baritala valley and Dschungaria still present exactly the appearance of a sea-bottom that has only recently dried, that the water-marks are still to be so plainly seen and indicate no rising and falling due to later seismic movements, that the Kaptagai mountain has not yet lost its polish through weathering, and that the results of the outflow of the Mongolian sea remain till the present time, show plainly that the outflow of this sea must have taken place not in a remote geological period, but in recent times, and indeed at a time when the Indo-Germanic and Semitic races and the various Mongolic peoples yet inhabited their primitive home. Such a frightful catastrophe could surely not fail to make so deep and lasting an impression on the people that witnessed it that its tradition would not be lost through thousands of years but would last till the present in the guise of the story of Noah's Flood."

How did this great sea come to exist at so high a level? The reviewer in *Gaea* points out that all modern geologists believe in such a Mongolian sea. Schwarz's theory is peculiar in that it supposes this sea to have been lifted bodily by the elevation of the whole Central Asiatic region and then precipitated upon the adjoining lowlands by the rupture of its mountain barrier, per-

haps by some earthquake, drowning all the dwellers in the Balkash plain, the Uralo-Caspian lowlands, and the Sahara. The bearing of the catastrophe on the dispersion of mankind will appear from the following quotation from *Gaea*:

"By the alteration of the climate and soil due to the outflow of the Mongolian sea, most of the dwellers in Central Asia were driven from their homes and scattered over the whole earth. Thus hundreds of millions of men were sent out. . . . The results of the Flood endure to the present, and we may rightly conclude that all later emigrations and most of the wars that have been waged from the earliest historical periods till now are only a necessary consequence of the disturbance of equilibrium in the natural dispositions of races and peoples due to the Flood."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

OLD PULPIT AND NEW.

THE Rev. H. R. Haweis recently asserted that the "old" pulpit is "stricken with dogmatic ague," "palsied with fear," and that it "would persecute if it could," but that it cannot do so, "because it has ceased to inspire convictions worth persecuting."

In our issue of February 16, we quoted from Mr. Haweis's article in *The North American Review*, wherein he assailed the pulpit of to-day because of its adherence to outworn arguments and unreasonable demands, and suggested that the hope of religion rested with the abolition of the pulpit as it is and the substitution of an up-to-date sacred desk. To this article Bishop Cyrus D. Foss, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, now replies, in the same *Review*. Bishop Foss believes in the "old," and thinks that therein lies the remedy for the new ills of life. We quote from his words:



BISHOP FOSS.

"We are told of the Incomparable Teacher that 'the common people heard Him gladly;' and many who did not hear Him gladly, yet heard Him, and kept on hearing at every opportunity. It is a fact of immense advantage to the world that He is the contemporary and leader of all the ages. His teachings can never be 'outworn;' rather to the end of time the greatest of men will only be rising into a less inadequate apprehension of their meaning. Neander profoundly says: 'Jesus would not have been Son of God and Son of Man had not His words like His works, with all their adaptation to the circumstances of the times, contained some things that are inexplicable—had they not borne concealed within them the germ of an infinite development, reserved for future ages to unfold. It is this feature—and all the evangelists concur in their representations of it—which distinguishes Christ from all other teachers of men. Advance as they may they can never reach Him; their only task need be, by taking Him more and more into their life and thought, to learn better how to bring forth the treasures that lie concealed in Him.'"

"What is the preaching needed to-day? No example can show us so well as that of the Great Teacher. He dwelt incessantly on 'the kingdom of Heaven' which He had come to set up on Earth. He constantly used parables to show what this kingdom is 'like;' so that it was almost literally true that 'without a parable spake He not.' He said: 'Every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of Heaven [*i.e.*, to modernize it, every intelligent preacher of the good news I bring] is like unto a man that

is a householder, which brought forth out of his treasures things new and old."

"So He Himself did. 'Things new,' of course; divine revelation was not yet complete; the New Testament was to be added to the Old; and new and many-sided applications of the truth were to be made to the ever-changing needs of the world. But also 'things old'; He who was the Truth did not brush away at a stroke all the imperfect past and create a perfect present; He quoted 'Moses and the prophets,' and declared that He 'came not to destroy but to fulfil' them. In full accord with that divinely wise plan which, alike in nature, in the Bible, and in history, works by development and growth, He shows us that the New Testament has its roots in the Old, and can never be torn away from it. His trustful use of the ancient Scriptures during his temptation by the devil, in which (not pausing to ask whether Moses wrote the whole of the Pentateuch) He drew from the sheath of Deuteronomy three good blades, before the gleaming points of which Satan fled, and His frequent declaration that He kept on His steady march to the cross 'that the Scriptures might be fulfilled,' may well teach hypercritics a much needed lesson.

"I think nothing is more noticeable in the teaching of Jesus Christ than the simplicity and directness of its illustrations drawn from the common life of the commonest sort of common people, and its searching application of eternal truths to the evils, needs, and duties of the age and country in which He lived. No preacher who has any proper sense of the force of the Master's example can fail to attempt to apply the ever-old truth to the ever-new want of the world; and that pulpit which, in any fair degree, succeeds in this endeavor, will be perpetually 'new.'"

Bishop Foss then proceeds to discuss the relation of the pulpit to secular affairs, and displays intimate knowledge of such things. He gives considerable space to politics and the labor question as well as to the degrading influence of "popular amusements." He believes that the only effectual remedy for existing wrongs is "by keeping close to the Bible." His closing words are:

"Thomas Chalmers preached for twelve years, with all his splendid eloquence, on 'the meanness of dishonesty, the villainy of falsehood,' etc., and did his utmost to make men better by secular motives. He frankly gives the result of this experience in these words: 'I never heard of any such reformation having been effected; if there was anything at all brought about in this way it is more than I ever got any account of. It was not until the free offer of forgiveness through the blood of Christ was urged upon men, that I ever heard of any of those subordinate reformations.' His example impressively shows that the pulpit, which is to transform the world, must grapple with the consciences of men in God's appointed way. It will thus bring forth from its treasures things perpetually 'new,' by drawing ever 'more on the irrepealably 'old.'"

IGNORANCE OF THE BIBLE.

AMONG the scholars in our public schools and colleges, ignorance of the Bible, so we are told, prevails "to an extent inconceivable to any person a generation ago." The Editor's Study in *Harper's Monthly* (March) refers to "recent statistics" on the subject (without giving them), which are taken to furnish "a curious illustration of the inadequacy of our educational machine to meet the requirements of life." The writer, Charles Dudley Warner, inveighs against this ignorance for reasons aside entirely from religious and ethical considerations. He says:

"Some of these pupils are victims of the idea that the Bible should not be read by the young, for fear that they will be prejudiced in a religious way before their minds are mature enough to select a religion for themselves. Now, wholly apart from its religious or from its ethical value, the Bible is the one book that no intelligent person who wishes to come into contact with the world of thought and to share the ideas of the great minds of the Christian era can afford to be ignorant of. All modern literature and all art are permeated with it. There is scarcely a great work in the language that can be fully understood and enjoyed without this knowledge, so full is it of allusions and illustrations from the Bible. This is true of fiction, of poetry, of economic and of

philosophic works, and also of the scientific and even agnostic treatises. It is not at all a question of religion, or theology, or of dogma: it is a question of general intelligence."

In considering the reasons for this increase of ignorance, Mr. Warner traces it in part to discontinuance of the use of the Bible in public schools, but still more to its changed position in the home. He continues:

"In comparison with its position in the family a generation ago, it is now a neglected book. It is neglected as literature. There are several suggestions for reviving interest in it. One of them is already in operation in Sunday-school work. Another is its study as literature in the schools and colleges. But we believe that the change will only come effectively by attention to the fundamental cause of this ignorance, the neglect of its use in the home in childhood. If its great treasures are not a part of growing childhood, they will always be external to the late possessor. In the family is where this education must begin, and it will then be, as it used to be, an easy and unconscious educator, a stimulus to the imagination, and a ready key to the great world of tradition, custom, history, literature."

INFECTION BY THE COMMON CUP.

THE editor of *The Christian Advocate* thinks that "the inconsistent condition of the minds of some" can best be illustrated by a circumstance which took place in a church where the individual cup had just been introduced, and relates the following occurrence:

The minister made an address to the people congratulating them that this plan removed the loathsomeness and the danger that had inhered in the cup under the old method, and that he could "now invite the most fastidious to commune." On the same occasion occurred the administration of baptism. The ordinary bowl was brought, containing about a quart of water. Five infants were presented, and in baptizing these he placed his hand in the bowl and then upon the head of the first infant, allowing it to remain there while the formula was being repeated, then upon the second, and so to the end. Afterward came the adults, and the same process was pursued. Upon this the editor says:

"That certain maladies can possibly be communicated by contact with water which has within a few seconds been in contact with persons suffering from the same cannot be doubted.

"What was the state of this brother's mind that he could fail to perceive the incongruity, in view of what he was about to say concerning the Holy Communion, of applying the same water to twenty heads?

"We observe that certain Baptist churches have adopted the individual cup. What will they do with regard to the essential rite of immersion? On a single occasion we saw twenty-five immersed in the baptism in the same water (and we know that one candidate was told to wear an old suit, as he was a poor man, and as it would be concealed under the robe furnished). These were immersed with all microbes that may have been upon them, and according to the ancient practise, their heads, including their mouths, nostrils, eyes, and ears, were all put under the same water, occasionally accompanied by coughing and strangling; yet one of these Baptist ministers, the same day that he denounced the common cup and introduced the new method, performed this act for several candidates.

"The reader must not suppose that we regard these acts as dangerous. Undoubtedly it is possible to communicate disease in this way, and for that matter it is possible for the minister to be in such a condition that he could communicate disease in baptizing, but it is extremely improbable.

"If there be anything in this alleged danger in the common cup, every known method of baptism, except that of immersion in the running stream, or the sprinkling or pouring of water by mechanical action from the running stream upon the head of the person, should be changed. And it would still be necessary to inquire whether sewage found its way into the stream.

"We believe that in a week infection is spread a hundredfold more by the passage from sick-room to sick-room, from house to house, and from patient to patient, of physicians, undertakers,

and nurses, of city missionaries and pastors, than by all the Communions of the world in the past century. And we do not believe that, where ordinary precautions are taken, sufficient danger exists in the movements of physicians and others in the discharge of their duty, to make it necessary to take the extraordinary."

EVOLUTION AND THE SACRAMENTS.

A ROMAN Catholic writer in *Cosmos*, Paris, February 2, has a word to say on a novel phase of the evolution theory as related to the doctrines of his Church. We translate below some of his remarks:

"Catholics, who are partisans of evolution as confined to organic species, assert that the Church is silent regarding their system: 'The fact is absolutely certain, the Catholic Church has defined nothing, declared nothing on the subject in question; it is useless to insist on this point, it is a matter of public knowledge.'"

"Nevertheless, here are two propositions which form part of the doctrine of the Church, and which are the premises of a conclusion relative to transformism:

"1st. The sacraments must last till the end of time.

"2d. Bread, wine, and oil are substances necessary for the sacraments of the Eucharist and of Extreme Unction. Now the terms employed by the Council of Trent to define the materials of the Eucharist are *panis triticens* [wheaten bread] and *vinum de vite* [wine of the grape] and Pope Eugene IV. in his decree *pro Armenis* [in behalf of the Armenians] specifies the oil that is to be used in Extreme Unction as *oleum olivarum* [oil of olives].

"Here, then, are three genera of plants—wheat, the vine, and the olive—which are guaranteed by the declaration of the Church against all evolution in future centuries. These three genera are also mentioned in Genesis, the most ancient book known. Are they the result of transformations wrought in previous ages? The evolutionists say so, and it accords with the logic of their system to affirm that they will be transformed yet more in the future; and, in fact, they endeavor to prove that evolution is working in our days as formerly and is working to modify present species and genera.

"Answers to the difficulty that I have raised in this note will, of course, be found, but it will always remain true that the doctrine of the Church supposes the fixity of certain vegetable types till the end of the world."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

Christian Literary Finds in Abyssinia.—According to the *Centralblatt für Bibliographie*, early Christian literature is again to be enriched from one of the many Eastern sources which have been made accessible during recent years. The oldest Christian people in existence that have retained their national independence are the Abyssinians, and to them Christian scholarship has been indebted not only for a valuable and ancient version of the Bible, but also for such works as the Book of Enoch, the Book of Jubilees, the Ascension of Isaiah and similar specimens of earliest Christian or Judæo-Christian literature, which had been lost to the rest of Christianity. Now new treasures are to be brought from this hermit nation of Eastern Africa. The present king, Menelik II., has recently undertaken an expedition south of Shoa to the islands of the Znai Sea, which are some of the oldest civilized spots in Abyssinia, and has brought from them a large collection of old manuscripts, which he proposes to put into the library of his new capital, Addis Abeba. Tradition says that during the Mohammedan inroads into Abyssinia in the Sixteenth Century, the libraries of the Abyssinian kings were transferred to these islands, especially on the island Debra Simon, or Mount Sinai. The fact that a large collection of very old and valuable literary finds was discovered there shows that these traditions are not without foundation. As Ethiopic or Abyssinian literature is purely and entirely of a Biblical and theological character, and has been especially rich in works of a very early era, it is more than probable that valuable works will be restored to the Church. A preliminary examination has also led to this belief. —*Translated and Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

* "Evolution Confined to Organic Species," by Father Leroy, p. 33.

Moravians in Alaska.—"The heroism of some Moravians who, early in the century, went as missionaries to one of the West Indian islands, has long been one of the glories of the Christian Church. When they found that they could not reach the slaves in any other way, they sold themselves into slavery in order that they might get the confidence of the people whom they would reach with the message of the Gospel. In the missionary history of the Church there is no more perfect or beautiful illustration of the spirit of the Incarnation than that displayed by those devoted men. The Moravians have always been foremost in good works. They are among the most liberal givers for the advancement of the kingdom of God. The members of that faith in our own country are now much interested in a mission in Alaska. . . . When the Moravian missionaries went to Greenland, more than one hundred years ago, it took five years before any results could be reached. In view of that fact, the outlook in Alaska is most encouraging."—*The Outlook.*

Interdenominational Fraternity.—"Bishop Foster invited a Baptist and a Presbyterian clergyman to assist at an ordination ceremony some time ago. Bishop Foss invited a Presbyterian pastor at Duluth to assist in the ordination ceremony at the last session of the Minnesota Conference. We were gratified to notice that Dr. Bridgman, president of Hamline University, by invitation of the committee, preached the sermon on the occasion of the installation of Rev. Frank W. Sneed, the new pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis. That was a notable expression of the spirit of Christian unity, as well as an act of courtesy to a minister of our Church, and if it leaves us in debt to our Presbyterian friends on the score of Christian fraternity, we hope the account will be more than squared the first opportunity."—*The Methodist Herald.*

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

THE SAVANNAH RIOT.—"If there is anything in the world sensational and disagreeable and presumably untrustworthy, it is the kind of lectures that are being given by that ex-priest Slattery and his wife on the subject of 'Secrets of the Catholic Confessional.' We have not the least bit of sympathy with the style of their warfare against the Roman Catholic Church, nor the least respect for the morbid taste that either seeks or provides the sort of revelations which the hearers of ex-Father Slattery expect. Abuse is not argument, and the recounting of genuine or invented excesses and scandals is no way to affect thinking men on such a subject as this. It fits in only with the forged Papal documents and pronouncements from Rome against human liberties, which we find in a certain class of newspapers which claim to be 'patriotic.'"—*The Independent.*

At the close of an article on "Welsh Disestablishment," *The Spectator* says: "We do not know, indeed, where the passion for disintegration is to stop. To apologize for Disestablishment in Wales by asking (virtually) for Home-rule for Wales, is a most dangerous use of what Napoleon III. used to call 'the logic of facts.' Indeed, it is just this use of the logic of facts which has transformed Mr. Gladstone's policy of 1886 into the new doctrine that our country should be first broken up into a number of petty Cantons in order that these may be tied together again by a weak federal thread."

"THERE could be no greater contrast than Salvation Army methods and those of Judaism. Yet we can learn much from the personal qualities of General Booth and the intensity of his faith. Such leaders are necessary for advancement in every field. They have the genius to communicate their vitality to their organization, when too many spiritual leaders only clog progress and narrow activity to their own petty level."—*The Jewish Messenger, New York.*

THE recent commemoration of Bishop Worthington's ten-years' episcopate was marked by a special feature worthy of all imitation. The bishop learned that his people intended to present to him a pastoral staff, but he let it be known that he would not accept such a gift. He deemed such a purchase an unwise use of funds, as the diocese was in arrears \$1,500 (nearly a quarter's salary) to the missionaries.—*The Churchman.*

THE African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church is preparing to hold a celebration in New York City in October, 1896, the centenary of its beginning. A large committee, of which Bishop Alexander Walters is chairman, has been appointed to make arrangements for the conference, which is to be in session ten days, exclusive of Sundays.

THE three Bible societies of England, Scotland, and this country have issued a miniature Gospel of St. John in Japanese for the use of the troops. The book is only two and three fourths by one and seven eighths inches, has a guarding-flap, and is on extremely thin paper, but very clear and readable.

"No," said the weary housewife to the minister on his sick call, "there ain't no use talkin' of rest everlastin' for the likes o' me. 'Pears thet other folks git luck like that, but I don't. I've ben stumpin' round on my feet ever sence I was born, and 'tain't likely to let up. 'F I was put underground on a Monday, don't you forgit the Resurrection would come along o' Chew-day, and hustle me out. I know what to look for! . . . How's your Mehit-able's jam turned out this Fall?"—*The Chap-Book.*

FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

CONDITION OF EASTERN BELLIGERENTS.

AT last China has found it expedient to send an embassy to Japan fully empowered to treat with the enemy. Some time, however, must elapse ere the belligerents come to terms. The Japanese are still far from Peking. The Chinese are not yet convinced that they are beaten. Admiral Fremantle could hardly convince a high Chinese official that the Chinese fleet had ceased to exist. It was only when the British officer assured the Celestial that he had just visited a Japanese man-of-war supposed to have been sunk by the Chinese that the Mandarin believed him. Meanwhile nothing of consequence is done in China to stop the invaders. The *Missions Catholiques*, Lyons, publishes a letter from the Lazarist missionary Favier, in which he describes Prince Kung as reviewing a detachment of 3,000 men. They were armed with bows and arrows! Favier believes that the end of the Tartar dynasty is near. The *Shanghai Mercury*, referring to the military position at China, says:

"There is little doubt that Major von Hanneken's plan for a Chinese army has utterly collapsed. As usual in such a case, there is more than one reason. The Viceroy Li's idea was to have a force completely under his control, in which von Hanneken should supply the brains and Li make the money and reputation. Von Hanneken desired both for himself, and as no intermediate way out of the difficulty presented itself, the whole scheme was knocked on the head. Von Hanneken wanted to save China by an army completely under his own control, but every military authority can see that to make an army in the eleventh hour is like grafting a green twig on a dead tree. A modern army requires ingredients which a stranger can neither buy nor create—patriotism, discipline, subordination from the general down to the last private; courage, system, *esprit de corps*; above all, officers who can teach and lead their men under any circumstances, and who are both loved and feared by their men. . . . The experience of the last few years goes to prove that the associates with whom Major von Hanneken has been identified are hardly qualified in this respect. The only practical idea for China is to throw herself into the protecting arms of one or two big nations, to assure peace for the next fifty years."

The *Mercury* thinks that a good beginning had been made with the navy, but the Chinese associates of Captain Lang objected to the keeping of clean accounts and the preservation of discipline.

The *Times*, London, thinks it is a mistaken belief that Japan is a poor country, as her taxation is comparatively light and there is frequently a surplus. This may, however, be due to careful management only, for Germany, which is generally accounted a poor country, also is taxed much less than her richer neighbors, and there is often a surplus in the treasury. But many Japanese papers also think that Japan is not suffering much inconvenience from the war. The *Jiji Shimpō*, Tokyo, points out that the foreign trade of the country has increased since the war began, and the lords (daimios) are not forced to keep up such large establishments as in the feudal times, when each daimio had to support hundreds of followers.

Financial troubles are not, therefore, feared in Japan. Much greater is the danger of political fermentation. The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, says:

"The Japanese Parliament is likely to begin the struggle for party government during the present session. This is a great pity, for Japan has not yet a party strong enough to hold the reins. The present war may develop such a party. It is not true that the war with China was begun to ward off interior troubles. On the contrary, the war was undertaken by a Ministry which knew that its successful issue would foreshadow the fall of that Ministry—quite a unique case in history. The Ito Cabinet represents the Japanese Bourgeoisie, the party opposed to all violent measures in home or foreign politics. The people will not give the honors of the war to this party. The War Party will

gain ascendancy, and they would rather violate the Constitution than allow a 'parliamentary Ministry.' The Ito Cabinet is certain to rouse popular opinion by its moderation. Count Ito is not likely to make demands upon China which would cause a revolution in that country and dissatisfaction among the Powers. Once in power, the War Party will split into Liberals and Conservatives, and the latter are not likely to remain in power long."

That the Emperor of China deeply feels his humiliation is evident from a proclamation, the text of which is given by the *Novoye Vremya*, St. Petersburg, as follows:

"When We came to the throne, it was Our most cherished resolution to begin extensive reforms. But Our Empire has been attacked by the Japanese, who tore Korea from us and entered Our territory. Our ancestors and the Foreign Powers know that We had no wish to come to war, but We despatched Our troops against them, not knowing how incompetent Our generals and how undisciplined Our troops were. The Japanese, therefore, are advancing nearer to the capital. All this has come over us because We Ourselves are unworthy, and have none but worthless men around Us. If the Japanese should succeed in reaching Our most holy altars, We will have no alternative but to perish. Then you may escort the Empress Dowager to the West, and choose a more worthy sovereign, one able to defend the graves of Our ancestors and to revenge Our humiliation."

This proclamation was published before Li Hung Chang became special envoy to Japan.

FRANCE FIGHTING AGAINST DEPOPULATION.

THE steady decrease in the population of France is alarming all patriotic Frenchmen. The trouble lies not in the large death-rate, but in the small birth-rate, which is even more distressing, for a large death-rate may be controlled by hygiene and sanitation. Among the devices by which it is hoped to better this state of things is a recently-formed association named *La Famille Française* (The French Family) whose aims and prospects are described by the veteran French economist, Jules Simon, in *Le Figaro*, Paris, February 13. In one aspect, the scheme resembles the marriage insurance companies that sprung up in Pennsylvania a few years ago, and after a short career, attended with considerable scandal, were suppressed by the State. We translate below portions of Jules Simon's article:

"The first time I heard of *La Famille Française*, some one said to me, 'It is the best remedy against depopulation.' . . . Depopulation is occupying my attention very much, as it is that of all good Frenchmen. I say to myself that France is losing her blood by every pore. I hear continually ringing in my ears the words of a Prussian orator: 'Why bother ourselves about France? She loses a battle every year!'

"But it is not only the numerical recuperation of the population that I demand from *La Famille Française*; it is the moral reconstitution of the family, the return among us of the domestic virtues and of the happiness of which they are the source.

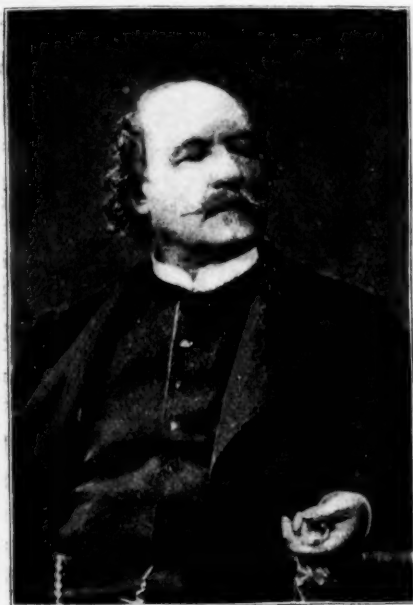
"The preaching of virtue is commendable. I like the sermons and the preachers. They elevate and strengthen the soul. The founders of *La Famille Française* do not demonstrate the beauty and power of the family tie: they make it possible and durable; they create it. They will give us back perhaps our army, but to begin with they will give us back happiness.

"What is to-day the fatal law that has been justly called the law of iron? It is competition. What is the infallible consequence of competition? It is the reduction of the salary to the sum strictly necessary to enable the workingman to live. The wages of the man do not suffice; those of the woman must be added. These two salaries together support two persons; if they cannot support three, the birth of a child, in place of being a joy for a young household, will be a disaster."

The lack of money, then, is in this case the root of the whole evil, so we are assured, and it is this lack of money that the new society proposes to supply in a legitimate and practical way by insuring, for the payment of a small annual sum, a considerable amount to be paid either at marriage as a dowry or at the birth of a child.

CANROBERT AND ROCHEFORT.

PARIS witnessed two remarkable spectacles in the beginning of February. Marshal Canrobert, the last of the Marshals of France from the time of the Second Empire, was buried with much ceremony at the expense of the Republican Government; and Rochefort, the indomitable antagonist of any kind of Government in France, returned to Paris in consequence of a general pardon. Marshal Canrobert's funeral expenses formed the theme



CANROBERT IN 1869.

of a lively discussion in the Chamber of Deputies, during which the Socialist Grousset demanded a grant for a monument in honor of the Communards who had been killed on the barricades. The grant for the expenses of Canrobert's funeral nevertheless passed with a majority of 288 to 159. Emperor William II. made use of the occasion to show his friendly feeling toward France by sending telegrams of condolence to the son and son-in-law of the deceased French commander, praising Canrobert's heroic defense of St. Privat, the

storming of which cost the Germans very dear (6,000 Prussian and Saxon Guards fell within ten minutes before the French defenses could be reached). Victor Duruy, writing in the *Figaro*, Paris, commented upon the event as follows:

"Had it been necessary for this hero to reach his last resting-place in any other guise than this, our Republic would have been dishonored before Europe. The great, bedecked car set out like a ship, gay with bunting, gliding on the surface of an invisible river between two human dykes. . . . All warlike France following its Marshal. The heads of the crowd were piously uncovered before all this passing glory. Suddenly the golden helmet of the Invalides, glittering beneath the sun, rose before us. And we understood better than ever that there, in that temple of glory, by the side of his peers, the warriors who made France great among the nations, Canrobert had to be buried. . . ."

And then Duruy turns fiercely upon Rochefort and the crowd which received him—the scum of Paris politics and Parisian streets, future candidates of municipal and other elections:

"And from that crowd rises a confused hum, which, interpreted, is as follows: 'Glory to thee, whose mockery has attacked and destroyed everything. Thou hast shaken the strong foundations of discipline, respect, and authority. Come! Finish thy work; lead the attack against what still remains. Bring new insults against the soldier, the judge, the priest, the Government and its head. . . . And while the tomb is closed over the last of the Marshals of France, the Evil Spirit who for thirty years has been grinning at the decomposition of his country returns to his city of Paris.'"

The foreign Press also, while it paid some respect to the dead soldier, showed very little friendship for Rochefort. *The Standard*, London, said:

"For Marshal Canrobert, who had fought and bled for France, there was no great display of popular enthusiasm, but a great ovation was accorded to the scurrilous writer whose notoriety has been founded on foul outrages on decent people and abject flattery of the mob. We shall be told that they are a minority of the French people. So they are. But they are the minority to whom

the majority extend unbridled license alike of language and of conduct. The epigrammatic confederate of Boulanger has been received with open arms by a fanatic mob; but M. Faure would not be granted such a reception were he to distribute one-thousand franc notes every twenty-four hours. The Socialists are jubilant, and well they may be. M. Rochefort is that worst form of adventurer, the adventurer who ought to be a gentleman; and there is no opinion that he will not embrace, no cause he will not champion, no policy he will not promote with his pen, if doing so will feed his vanity and fill his pocket. And these are the creatures before whom the great French nation quails."

The *Boersen Zeitung*, Berlin, a Liberal paper, said:

"The Imperial Government soon was bitterly sorry when, in 1868, Rochefort was dismissed from the *Figaro*, where he had a salary of 30,000 francs (\$6,000), because he smuggled a few political sarcasms into the paper, which was then only a literary production. He immediately issued the *Lanterne*, which rose to a circulation of 120,000 copies, and paid its publisher 10,000 francs (\$2,000) per week. . . . It is characteristic of Rochefort that he invited all refugees to celebrate with him the 'victory over the Government.' That the Socialists will welcome him as their head we do not believe, as he is still somewhat reserved in his manner toward them. He is exclusively a satirist, and even in this rôle he is more personal than objective. He has a wealth of hatred, and does not shrink from a lie; he is very skilful in the formation of comical affronts, does not believe in any party—Socialists, Clericals, Monarchists, or Republicans—and has an immense following of malicious people. The poor Vicomte Rochefort-Lucay might have joined the Communists, but not the wealthy and luxurious art-dealer."

EUROPEAN PRESS ON THE BIMETALLIC CONFERENCE.

THE German Reichstag's petition to the Government to call together another International Congress to consider the question of the relation of silver to gold has not apparently created as yet much interest in Germany. The action is regarded as a movement of the Agricultural Alliance, but it is possible, nevertheless, that the Emperor, who alone, under the Constitution, can ask Foreign Powers to participate in the Congress, will send out the necessary invitations. The *Kölnische Zeitung*, Cologne, says of the movement:

"A number of representatives have consented to submit the question to another international scrutiny; its results will at least end an agitation by which only the Socialists can profit in the end. There is no reason why the advocates of a gold standard should object to having the matter discussed again."

The *Vossische Zeitung*, Berlin, says:

"In South German circles no great interest has been aroused by the reopening of the question. No one believes that the attempts to bring about an alteration of the gold currency will have any success. The result of any change would be the loss of foreign confidence, which would react unfavorably upon the price of money in Germany. The antagonism displayed in banking circles to bimetalism is not selfish. Quite the contrary. From a purely business point of view the bankers could not wish anything better than the substitution of a currency which would at first produce a period of transition, of uncertainty and fluctuation, with the prospects of increased profits. It is the bimetalists' policy that is selfish, and the interests of the nation demand that they should be opposed."

Outside of Germany, the possibility of a new monetary conference has created much more interest. The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, says:

"The hope that silver may yet be rehabilitated must necessarily be of some influence in the countries with a silver standard. Holland is deeply concerned in the matter. She played no unimportant part during the Brussels Conference. The Netherlands ought therefore to take the initiative, now that England and Germany are willing to reconsider the question."

The *Independance Belge*, Brussels, says:

"It is clear that Germany, who has adhered to the gold standard

for a long time, is about to make a change. The people are convinced that the return to bimetalism is a question of life and death to the agricultural interests of the country. The farming population represents the bone and muscle of the nation. Yet it is very doubtful that the proposed Conference will accomplish more than that which was held in Brussels during November, 1892."

In England the prevailing opinion seems to be that it would be very good if other countries could be brought to adopt bimetalism, but that England must adhere to the gold standard. The *Radical Chronicle*, London, points out that bimetalism is of advantage to the debtor only. England, as the greatest creditor, has the most gold and knows how to use it to her advantage.

The financial papers in England handle the question with extreme caution. *Money*, London, says:

"A step of this sort can hardly be without effect. . . . France has always conveyed her desire that some arrangements of international scope in regard to currency matters should be come to, and has been prepared to influence in this direction the other countries who formed with her the Latin Union. The United States has consistently asked that some action should be taken in the common welfare of humanity for the rehabilitation of silver to something of its old position as part of the money of the world. India, though not able to voice her complaints with effect, has prayed that something might be done to help her in her financial straits. Germany now joins the majority, and intimates a readiness to discuss the question in a tone very different to that which for twenty years past has been maintained. . . . Even in England there is a growing desire to listen, at any rate, to what may be said on the subject. Sir William Harcourt, it is true, sits stubbornly resistant, and backs his refusal to have anything to do with what he deems the silver heresy by pointing to the majority in the House of Commons last session adverse to any consideration in the matter. Only Sir William Harcourt, it must be confessed, is not so secure as he might desire in his position of Chancellor of the Exchequer; and opposed to him are Conservatives such as Mr. Arthur Balfour and Mr. Chaplin, and their allies. It seems to us that it will be very difficult for England to preserve a position of complete isolation from other nations, and that the way is cleared for a more thorough and more considerate discussion of the subject than for years past."

EUROPEAN BICKERINGS ABOUT AFRICA.

ITALY'S colonial enterprises in Africa demand much more attention than was at first expected. According to the *Esercito*, Rome, the Italians have already 12,000 men in the field, and more are to follow. "It must be remembered that we have two enemies," says the paper; "the Mahdi and Ras Menelik, the Abyssinian usurper." The Abyssinians are assisted by French and Russian agents. This has caused the Italians to look on Russia, France, and the Pope as a new Triple Alliance. The *Papagallo*, Bologna, says:

"Nice comrades they are, to be sure! Russia is followed by the shadow of Panславism, Anti-Semitism, and Nihilism—the latter danger being, no doubt, the greatest of all. Popery is ever followed by ignorance and ever eager to replenish its money-box. As for France, her riches alone give strength to the new alliance, and her citizens must ultimately pay the piper."

Even without the assistance of foreign adventurers the Africans are quite strong enough to make their subjugation a costly affair. The British Government had to give up the attempt to subject the Mahdists to control. According to *The Riforma*, Rome, the Sudanese have the following forces at their command:

"One of the Mahdi's generals, Ahmed-el-Fadil, has 5,000 men under his command, 500 of which are cavalry. Osman Digma has 4,000 men, 1,000 of which are cavalry. The whole forces of the Madhi are thought to number rather more than 22,000, of which 10,000 are armed with modern rifles, and 1,500 are mounted."

Opposed by France, Italy naturally turns to England for support, for the latter country is no less troubled with foreign busy-

bodies in the administration of Egypt. The French Press still continues to assert that the time has come for Great Britain to withdraw from the Land of the Pharaohs, and that France is bound to guard the interests of the natives. *The Soleil*, Paris, says:

"Although Egypt is temporarily occupied by Great Britain, England will not be allowed to destroy Egyptian independence, either with or without the assistance of Italy. The cruiser *Tronde* has been sent to watch the Italians near Aden, and an agreement has been concluded between France and Russia for the protection of Abyssinia, as Italy is evidently anxious to take possession of the latter country."

It is highly amusing to watch the progress made by the German Press in copying the English papers in their mode of agitating for colonial enterprise. Germany has no connection with the Egyptian question. Yet the *Kölnische Zeitung*, Cologne, thinks the British Government should be warned that its attitude in Egypt has endangered the foreign residents there; representations ought to be made in the interest of the German colony at Alexandria. Referring to the attitude of the British Press with regard to the dissatisfaction of the Khedive, the paper says:

"It must be remembered that the present editor of *The Times* was correspondent of the paper at Cairo only a few years ago, and signs his articles on the question with 'One twenty years a resident in Egypt.' Lord Cromer, therefore, possesses in *The Times* a most valuable assistant in his office of Satrap of Egypt. Whatever Lord Cromer cannot tell the Khedive, *The Times* will speak about. At present the Khedive is accused of intriguing against his Premier, Nubar Pasha. But even if this were true, the Khedive cannot be blamed, unless he is satisfied to be a puppet only. Nubar is very old, his deafness makes communication with him extremely difficult, and he is only fitted for his present position inasmuch as he accepts everything with the quiet resignation due to old age. No wonder that the Khedive wishes for a younger man. That Abbas Pasha receives the representative of the *Journal des Débats* more pleasantly than the English correspondents is also easy to understand, considering the treatment he receives at the hands of the English papers. *The Times* says: 'The Khedive has learned nothing and forgotten nothing.' We must admit that it is no dishonor to his character if he does not forget the way in which he was treated."

The King and the ex-King of Servia.—When King Alexander of Servia, prompted by filial love and respect, allowed his father Milan to return to his former kingdom, it was feared that the ex-King would exercise such influence over his son that the people would revolt. For a time it seemed as if these fears were about to be realized, but the young King has now learned that the Servians knew very well what they were doing when they refused longer to be ruled by Milan. According to the *Neue Freie Presse*, Vienna, the ex-King left the scene of his former glory in a hurry because his son had discovered that his father advised him badly. That paper says:

"It seems as if King Alexander had his opinion changed completely. A few months ago he did everything his father asked him to do. He dismissed his old and tried adviser, Ristich, and violated the Constitution. But since King Alexander has become aware of the dissipation of his parent, he has gradually shown less confidence. Besides, hardly a day passed without the presentation of some bills incurred by ex-King Milan, and sometimes the creditors uttered threats against the Royal family. Ex-King Milan's hasty departure, no doubt, had something to do with this."

THE Prensa, Buenos Ayres, thinks it is quite unnecessary for nations to resort to force to collect debts, and invites the United States to unite with South American republics in teaching the foreigners this important lesson. Germany is reported to exercise some pressure over the Venezuelan Government to insure the payment of a foreign debt, but the *Prensa* declares that creditors should examine their risks beforehand. To use force in the collection of debts for the sake of foreign investors is, so thinks the paper, a violation of the Monroe Doctrine and of American independence.

A DECIDED falling-off of the martial spirit of the nation is noticeable in France. The laws are favorable to voluntary service in the army, after the conscriptional term through which every able-bodied Frenchman has to pass. But volunteers are not forthcoming in sufficient numbers, and France must give up the hope to possess, with 39,000,000 inhabitants, a larger army than her Teutonic neighbor with 52,000,000.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CARLYLE'S INTERVIEW WITH THE QUEEN.

AS illustrative of the oblique views taken by Carlyle, the following letter written by him to his sister Jean, the wife of the late Dr. Aitkin, of Dumfries, is excellent. *The Athenæum* says that "for sufficient reasons it has hitherto been held from publication, and it is only now that we are able to give the interesting epistle to the public":

"CHELSEA, March 11, 1869.

"DEAR JEAN:—Mary, I find, has inserted for you a small letter along with the one that belongs to the doctor. I have nothing of my own in the form of news beyond what that 'child of nature' will have said.

"But my present business is to tell you exclusively of the Queen's interview, for which great object I have only a few minutes. Swift then, if my poor hand but would! 'Interview' took place this day gone a week. Nearly a week before that the Dean and Deaneess (who is called Lady Augusta Stanley, once Bruce, an active, hard, and busy woman) drove up here, and, in a solemnly-mysterious, half-quizzical manner, invited me for Thursday, 4th, at 5 P. M.—'must come; a very high, indeed highest, personage has long been desirous,' etc. I saw well enough it was the Queen's incognita, and briefly agreed to come. 'Half-past 4, come you,' and then went their ways.

"Walking up at the set time, I was ushered into that long drawing-room in their monastic edifice. I found no Stanley yet there; only at the further end a tall old year-pole (?) of a Mrs. Grote, the most wooden-headed woman I know in London, or the world, who thinks herself very clever, etc., and the sight of whom led me to expect Mr. too, and perhaps others, as accordingly in a few minutes fell out. Grote and wife, Sir Charles Lyell and ditto, Browning and myself: that I saw to be our party. 'Better than nothing,' thought I, 'these will take off the edge of the thing, if edge there be,' which it hadn't, nor threatened to have.

"The Stanleys and we were all in a flow of talk, and some flunkies had done setting coffee-pots and tea-cups of a sublime pattern, when her Majesty, punctual to the minute, glided in, escorted by her dame-in-waiting (a duchess dowager of Athol), and by the Princess Louise, decidedly a very pretty young lady, and clever too, as I found out in talking to her afterward. The Queen came softly forward, a kindly little smile on her face, gently shook hands with all the three women, gently acknowledged with a nod the silent bows of us male monsters, and directly in her presence every one was at ease again. She is a comely little lady, with a pair of kind, clear, and intelligent gray eyes; still looks almost young (in spite of one broad wrinkle which shows on each cheek occasionally); is still plump; has a fine, low voice, soft; indeed, her whole manner is melodiously perfect. It is impossible to imagine a politer little woman; nothing the least imperious; all gentle; all sincere, looking unembarrassing—rather attractive even; makes you feel, too (if you have any sense in you), that she is Queen.

"After a little word to each of us—to me it was, 'Sorry you did not see my daughter' (princess of Russia), or 'all sorry,' perhaps so; which led us to Potsdam, Berlin, etc., for an instant or two. To Sir Charles Lyell I heard her say 'gold in Sutherland,'—but quickly and delicately cut him short in responding. To Browning, 'Are you writing anything?' (who has just been publishing the absurdest things!) To Grote I did not hear what she said, but it was touch and go with everybody—Majesty visibly without interest, or nearly so, of her own.

"After this, coffee (very black and muddy) was handed round, Queen and three women taking seats, Queen in the corner of a sofa, Lady Deaneess in opposite corner, Mrs. Grote in a chair intrusively close to Majesty; Lady Lyell modestly at the diagonal corner; we others obliged to stand and hover within call.

"Coffee fairly done, Lady Augusta called me gently to come and speak to her Majesty. I obeyed, first asking, as an old, infirmish man, Majesty's permission to sit, which was graciously conceded. Nothing of the least significance was said, or needed; however, my bit of dialogue went very well. 'What part of Scotland I came from?' 'Dumfries (where Majesty might as well go sometimes). Carlisle, Caer Lewel, a place of about the antiquity of King Solomon (according to Milton)' whereat

Majesty smiled. Border Ballads and old James Pool slightly alluded to, not by name. Glasgow, and grandfather's ride thither, ending in more psalms, and streets vacant at 9:30 P. M.—hard, sound Presbyterian root of what has now shot up to such a monstrously ugly cabbage tree and hemlock tree! all which Majesty seemed to take rather well; whereupon Mrs. Grote rose good-naturedly and brought forward her husband cheek by jowl with Majesty, who evidently did not care a straw for him, but kindly asked—'Writing anything?' and one heard, 'Aristotle, now that I have done with Plato' (but only for a minimum of time). Majesty herself (and I think apropos of some question about my shaky hand) said something about her own difficulty in writing to dictation, which brought forward Lady Lyell and husband, mutually used to the operation; after which, talk becoming quite trivial, Majesty gracefully retired with Lady Augusta, and in ten minutes more returned to receive our farewell bows, which, too, she did very prettily, and sailed out as if moving on skates, and bending her head to us with a smile.

"Froude tells me there are foolish myths about the poor business, especially about my share of it; but this is the real truth, worth to me in strictest truth all but nothing, in the myths less than nothing.

"Tell the Dr. I intended writing him, but it is already (horrible to think) a quarter past 4. Adieu, dear sister, yours ever,
"T. C."

THE HARD ROAD OF JOURNALISM.

MR. CLEVELAND MOFFETT, late of *The Herald* staff, has written for *The Illustrated American* an article criticizing the general conduct of the American daily newspaper. Mr. Moffett is severe in his *exposé* of the inside life of metropolitan journals, but he seems to have authority for speaking *ex cathedra*. Among other things he says:

"Journalism is unlike other professions in this, that advancing service does not bring much greater remuneration or desirability of work. As for the reporters, ten years is a long stretch of service, men being regarded as veterans after four or five years. In fact the whole city staff of a great newspaper is apt to change like the human body in a space of seven years. The reporters who survive the periodical 'shakeups' which descend on all newspaper offices like cyclones once or twice a year, and who survive the jealousies, the meannesses, the cliques, the humiliations, the discomforts of their work, are advanced (?) to desk positions or to the dignity of editors. But here, while accepting greater confinement and responsibility, they are given in exchange for their ripened experience scarcely greater salaries than they were able to earn as 'star' reporters. Indeed, they often find themselves earning less, for the pay of a copy-reader, one of these 'advanced' positions, a Sunday editor, an assistant city editor, or a night city editor, is only from \$40 to \$60 a week, an average that many good reporters will exceed. Or suppose they attain one of the higher prizes, the position of city editor, night editor, or managing editor, with salaries ranging from \$60 to \$150 a week—and it must be borne in mind that there are very few of these positions, say two or three dozen in New York, with four thousand active journalists to fill them—what does it amount to? These editors are treated with scarcely more consideration than the ordinary reporters, and are at any time liable to be discharged without notice. I have known a New York daily to change its city editor four or five times in six months. And on *The Herald* it used to be the fashion to condole with a man on his elevation to power, it being an axiom in the office that the first step in cutting off a man's head was to lift it into prominence.

"But admitting that editors or reporters hold their positions for a number of years, as many do, their surroundings, temptations, and obligations are such that it is almost impossible for them to lay by any money, even though their incomes would more than justify it were they in other callings. This statement may be taken as true without explanation. The result is, for the journalist, editor as well as reporter, that when his usefulness is done, when his strength is worn away, when his period of short-lived favor has waned, when his hair is whitening and the fifty-year point growing near, the point at which other men in other lines not endowed so richly are preparing to retire on an assured competence, he finds the fierce blaze of a feverish life with its little glory dying away into ashes, sees nothing before him but poverty and regrets, loneliness and often disgrace, for when everything else has failed them, newspaper men are all too prone to fail themselves and seek in drink some brief illusion of satisfaction, some pitiful forgetfulness."

MAX O'RELL AFTER MARK TWAIN.

WHEN humorists fall out it is no laughing matter. Mark Twain's recent criticisms of Paul Bourget's *Outre Mer*, and of his lively raillery at Americans, has aroused in Max O'Rell's breast feelings as near akin to indignation as that pleasant humorist ever allows himself to express. One of Mark's retorts has especially nettled him. In reply to the taunt: "I suppose life can never get entirely dull to an American, because whenever he can't strike up any other way to put in his time, he can always get away with a few years trying to find out who his grandfather was," Mark replied: "I reckon a Frenchman's got his little standby for a dull time too; because when all other interests fail, he can turn in and see if he can't find out who his father was." Max O'Rell characterizes the first taunt as "a good-humored bit of chaffing," but Mark's reply he considers "unkind, unfair, bitter, nasty," "a gratuitous charge of immorality hurled at the Frenchmen—a remark unworthy a man who has the ear of the public."

O'Rell admits that he himself does not like Bourget's book, though he thinks the literary style of it so delightful that one forgets the matter for the manner, as one might in listening to Adelina Patti singing scales. To the question put sarcastically by Mark Twain, "What can France teach us?" O'Rell responds (*North American Review*, March) as follows:

"France can teach America all the higher pursuits of life, and there is more artistic feeling and refinement in a street of French workmen than in many avenues inhabited by American millionaires. She can teach her, not perhaps how to work but how to rest, how to live, how to be happy. She can teach her that the aim of life is not money-making, but that money-making is only a means to obtain an end. She can teach her that wives are not expensive toys, but useful partners, friends, and confidants, who should always keep men under their wholesome influence by their diplomacy, their tact, their common-sense, without bump-tiousness. These qualities, added to the highest standard of morality (not angular and morose, but cheerful morality), are conceded to Frenchwomen by whoever knows something of French life outside of the Paris boulevards, and Mark Twain's ill-natured sneer cannot even so much as stain them."

"In France a man who was seen tipsy in his club would immediately see his name canceled from membership. A man who had settled his fortune on his wife to avoid meeting his creditors would be refused admission into any decent society. Many a Frenchman has blown his brains out rather than declare himself a bankrupt."

One incident not before published is related by O'Rell in the course of his rejoinder. It tells pretty severely on New York snobbery, and the writer makes a sort of half-apology for narrating it. Here it is:

"I could give Mark Twain an example of the American specimen [of snobbery]. It is a piquant story. I never published it because I feared my readers might think that I was giving them a typical illustration of American character instead of a rare exception."

"I was once booked by my manager to give a *causerie* in the drawing-room of a New York millionaire. I accepted with reluctance. I do not like private engagements. At five o'clock on the day the *causerie* was to be given, the lady sent a note to my manager to say that she would expect me to arrive at nine o'clock and then to speak for about an hour. Then she wrote a post-script. Many women are unfortunate there. Their minds are full of after-thoughts, and the most important part of their letters is generally to be found after their signature. This lady's P. S. ran thus: 'I suppose he will not expect to be entertained after the lecture.'"

"I fairly shouted, as Mark Twain would say, and then, indulging myself in a bit of snobbishness, I was back at her as a flash:

"Dear Madam: As a literary man of some reputation, I have many times had the pleasure of being entertained by the members of the old aristocracy of France. I have also many times had the pleasure of being entertained by the members of the old aristocracy of England. If it may interest you, I can even tell

you that I have several times had the honor of being entertained by royalty; but my ambition has never been so wild as to expect that one day I might be entertained by the aristocracy of New York. No, I do not expect to be entertained by you, nor do I want you to expect me to entertain you and your friends to-night, for I decline to keep the engagement."

"Now, I could fill a book on America with reminiscences of this sort, adding a few chapters on bosses and boodlers, on New York *chronique scandaleuse*, on the tenement-houses of the large cities, on the gambling-hells of Denver, and the dens of San Francisco, and what not! But I will not do it, Mark. I have found, throughout the length and breadth of America, people who respect France and entertain for her nothing but feelings of affection. Mark Twain's article will offend them quite as much as it offends me, and I have seen already many letters in the American papers loudly protesting against it."

COURT-HOUSE ANECDOTES.

A "HALF a Century with Judges and Lawyers" ought to enable one to crack jokes till the crack of doom. The clause in quotation-marks above is the title of a volume of funny court-house stories by Joseph A. Willard, Clerk of the Superior Court of Massachusetts (published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co.), who here gives to the public many of the amusing incidents of his professional life, several of which we quote:

"An anecdote was told me by my predecessor in office about Chief Justice Parsons. One day he was holding court, and his nephew was one of the jurors. The court took a regular intermission from one to two o'clock, and when the Court came in, the nephew did not appear for half an hour. Then he came in quite breathless. Judge Parsons said to him: 'Mr. Juror, what is your excuse for keeping the Court and officers and twenty-three jurors waiting an hour?' The juror said, 'May it please your honor, after dinner I sat down and accidentally fell asleep, but as soon as I woke I came with all the speed I could.' 'Mr. Clerk,' said the Chief Justice, 'fine him ten dollars.' 'I did not dream of that,' said the juror. 'You may remit the fine,' said the Chief Justice. . . ."

"General Butler, who had drooping eyelids and was near-sighted, was trying a cause in which John P. Treadwell was opposed to him. Treadwell, while reading law to the Court, inadvertently turned towards the jury. Butler said: 'That will not do, brother Treadwell, reading law to the Court and looking at the jury.' When the General rose to reply and read his citation of the law, Treadwell thought that Butler was doing the same thing, and said: 'Ah, brother Butler, you are now doing what you rebuked me for, reading law to the Court and looking at the jury.' The General, with a most comical grimace, looking round to the bar and the audience, said: 'You can't tell which way I am looking.' . . ."

"Robert Morris was a leading colored practitioner, and sometimes very amusing incidents occurred. The first one I remember was this: One Brown got into some difficulty; he transferred or sold his stock in trade to one Turner on a pass-book and then left the State. Both were colored men. After the difficulty had blown over Brown returned to Boston and claimed that he only let Turner have these goods to keep while he was gone. Turner would not give them up and Mr. Searle brought a suit in *trover*, Brown against Turner. Turner was obliged to prove Brown's signature, which Morris tried once or twice and failed in. Then he called another witness and said: 'Did you ever see Brown write?' 'Yes,' said the witness. Morris held the piece of book behind him and said: 'Now suppose I should show you his signature, do you think you would know it?' 'Seeing as how people write different at different times, I don't know as I should.' Morris, opening the book, showed him the signature and asked: 'How does that strike you?' Witness looked at it and replied: 'That strikes me just how I couldn't tell.' 'John Wright, take the stand.' Mr. Wright came forward, the darkest colored man I ever saw. 'Did you ever see Brown write?' 'Oh, yes, sir; frequently.' Morris showed him the signature and said: 'Well, what do you think of that?' 'Oh, I knows not'ing 'bout dat; I t'ought you axed me, 'Wright, did you ever see Brown?'" The whole room was convulsed with laughter, and even Judge Hoar smiled. . . ."

POPULATION OF THE EARTH, IN DIAGRAM.

IF Carlyle's cynical remark about the population of England—"twenty million, mostly fools"—holds for all the world, the number of fools left, despite the law of the survival of the fittest, is painful to contemplate. To help our feeble finite minds to grasp the situation, J. Holt Schooling, fellow of the Royal Statistical Society of England, has pictured out for us, in a series of interesting diagrams, the comparative populations of various countries both now and in the centuries to come. His article (*Strand Magazine*, February) opens with the following estimates of population:

In 1874, according to Behm and Wagner.....	1,391 millions.
" 1878, " Levasseur.....	1,439 "
" 1883, " Behm and Wagner	1,434 "
" 1886, " Levasseur.....	1,483 "
" 1891, " Wagner and Supan.....	1,480 "

This last estimate he takes to be sufficiently accurate for a working basis. The population is divided as follows:

	Population.
Asia.....	825,954,000
Europe.....	357,379,000
Africa.....	163,953,000
America.....	121,713,000
Oceanica Islands and Polar Regions.....	7,500,400
Australia.....	3,230,000
The World.....	1,479,729,400

Estimating the ratio between area and population in these different divisions, he secures the series of diagrams (Fig. 1) showing density of population. He turns next to the relations between area and population in the centuries to come, and after careful computation determines that the increase in the

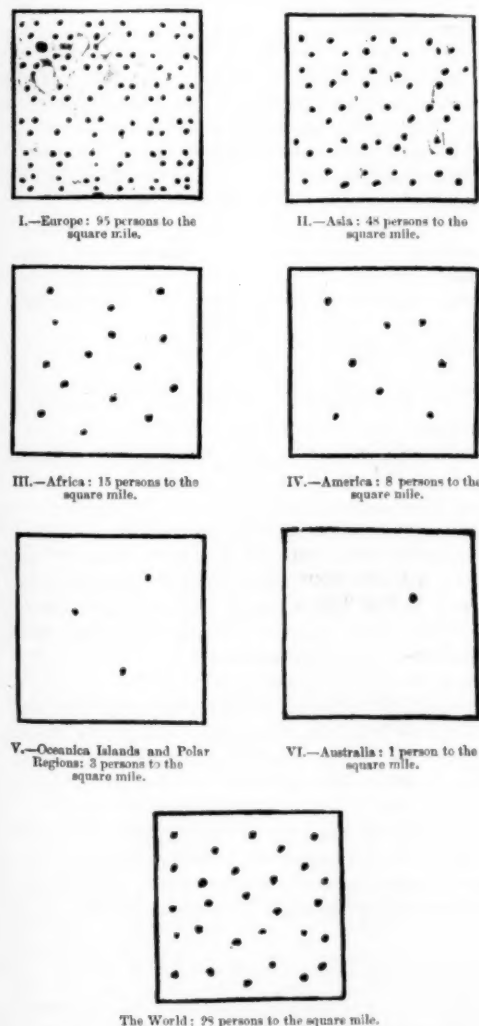


FIG. 1.—These seven squares show the Density of Population of the World: illustrated by the number of persons to each square mile of the various continents, etc.

world's population is 5 per 1,000 persons per annum. The results work out as follows:

In 1891	1,480 million persons.
" 1900 there will be	1,549 "
" 1950 " "	1,986 "
" 2000 " "	2,548 "
" 2030 " "	2,960 "
" 2100 " "	4,197 "
" 2200 " "	6,910 "
" 2300 " "	11,379 "
" 2400 " "	18,738 "
" 2516 " "	33,416 "
" 2517 " "	33,586 "

These figures are made the basis for another series of diagrams (Fig. 2), which he explains as follows: "The dot in the center of each of these diminishing estates (except two) represents the gradually thinning owner, who is wise enough to lessen his requirements—and his bulk—as his estate grows smaller and smaller; the two little figures in the top and bottom 'estates' suggest a possible change of ownership during the six hundred and forty-five years of change to which the ten diagrams in No. 4 relate—i.e., from A.D. 1871 to A.D. 2516. Long before this latter date our descendants will probably be living in the air, or perhaps in the sea for a change, so that the less-

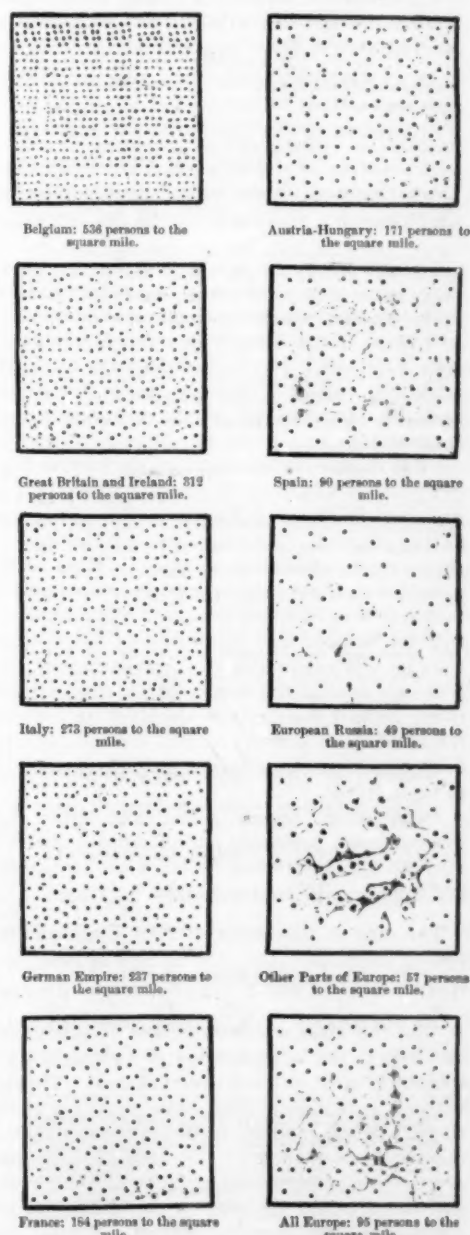
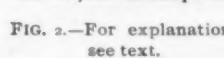
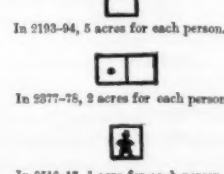
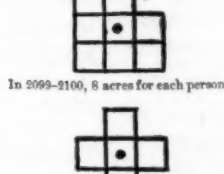
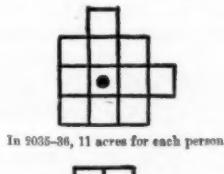
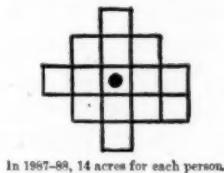
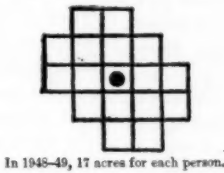
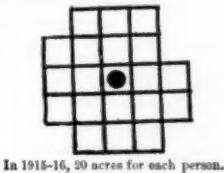
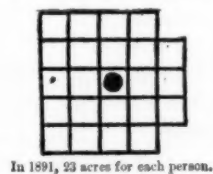
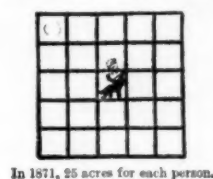


FIG. 3.—These ten squares show the Density of Population in Europe: illustrated by the number of persons, i.e., dots, to each square mile of the various countries named.

ening of space illustrated will not cause real inconvenience. Moreover, . . . one acre for one person is not a bad allowance. Belgium is now very nearly as crowded as this, and she yet finds room for all her manufactories and works, not to mention the ground-space of the recent Antwerp Exhibition."

Taking Europe by itself the writer then computes the density of population of the various countries and embodies these results in another series of diagrams (Fig. 3). He closes the article by unceremoniously packing all the teeming millions on the face of the earth into a cubic box (in diagram) 1,140 yards in width, 1,140 yards in length, and 1,140 yards in depth, and labeling it "Handle with care."

MORBID LIVES IN NEW ENGLAND CABINS.

THE pathos of life on the bleak hillsides of New England has been strongly pictured time and again in fiction. One of the writers who has done her share in this way, Rebecca Harding Davis, throws aside for a time the trappings of romance and in an earnest, straightforward way tells the world of the tragedies that are being enacted year after year "in the gray cabins of New England." Her description (*Century*, February) is not aimless; she calls for action and suggests a remedy whereby the morbid lives of New England women may "find again what they have now entirely lost—their proper relations to their brother man and to God."

She refers to the current belief that "the old-time Yankee of Lowell and the Puritan of Hawthorne are still living in their [New England] farms and villages, producing brain-force for the whole country," and she dispels the delusion as follows:

"About ten years ago I went for the first time to spend the Summer in one of these lonely farming districts. I expected to find the same intellectual aspirations among these people that I had found in the class whom Dr. Holmes calls the Brahmins of New England. I looked at the unpainted little houses with gratitude and respect. Here, no doubt, the Emersons, the Websters, and the Hawthornes of the next generation were now being trained. . . .

"But these inhabitants were, in fact, a few stooped, dull-eyed old men and lean old women. The young men and their wives had gone to Idaho or Kansas. The old people were employed in saving pennies. To that end they starved their cattle and themselves with patience and system. Most of them had been educated; but their only mental food now was the most sensational fiction in a circulating library in Plymouth. They knew, at least, that excitement was the nutriment lacking in their lives. They took no interest in any vital question, not even in the dogmatic theology dear to the hearts of their forefathers, though a few of them looked hazily into spiritualism. Some of them made a fetish of their homes; to pay for the little house, to scrub it, to keep it unaltered in its bare ugliness, took the place of worship in their lives.

"One house, bigger, barer, and uglier than the others, was the voluntary prison of an old woman who for five years had not allowed a human being to cross the threshold. Nobody thought her conduct odd or remarkable."

The men on the farms of New England are described as destitute of religious faith, and "stingy of love, of friendship, of emotion." But the life of the women is still more pitiful. She says:

"But the class which calls now most urgently for consideration and help is the large surplus of unattached women, widows, and spinsters, in all of these communities. They are educated, almost without exception; they have sensitive instincts, strong affections, and the capacity to do high work in the world. But from the sheer force of a single circumstance—the majority of their sex in certain States—they have neither husbands nor children, and there is no occupation for them but household drudgery. Nervous prostration is an almost universal ailment among them, following, as it always does, long self-repression.

"I know women of high culture and large wealth who spend the year flying from mountain to coast, from the Isle of Shoals to Florida, in the hope of gaining a night's solid sleep. They will

look at you with wide, tragic eyes, and coolly inform you that as they are descended from a long line of brain-workers—scholars—they can hope for nothing better than cerebral disease. The brain in their race has worn out the body. When it chances that these victims of atavism marry, they inevitably soon grow stout, energetic, and common-sensed; they joke, dote on their children, and skirmish with their servants like ordinary happy women. One hears no more of hereditary madness. A baby is a cure, as old-fashioned as the days of Eve, for a woman's morbid ambitions. . . .

"It is a hereditary habit in certain families for the women who have a grief to shut themselves into a single room, and remain there for ten, twenty, thirty years. Nor are the morbid fancies of these women always gloomy and sad. They live sometimes in an enchanted land of their own.

"One whom I know, a woman of sensuous temperament and motherly instincts, refused to marry a man whom she loved because he had gone to live in another town, and she would be forced to leave the old house and half-acre which were the center of the world to her. The courtship went on for forty years, but she was true to the house!

"Another drove her lover away on the day of the wedding because she could not bring herself to change the name of Wonson for any other. He was rich and she was poor; he remained faithful and ready as long as she lived. She died at seventy, a maiden Wonson still. Could pride of blood go further? . . .

"Heaven forbid that I should have a word of impatience for these thousands of morbid lonely women whom God sent into the world to be busy and happy. 'But yet the pity of it, Iago! O Iago, the pity of it, Iago!' Think of the process by which the possible mother in a young girl is starved into one of these dumb human machines! The slow torture of the water-drop is less lingering and sore.

"What can be done for them?"

"One of these single women, after living alone in her little hut on Cape Cod until old age, a reticent, miserly creature, became at sixty suddenly and violently insane. Her physician, wiser than his kind, prescribed no medicine, but procured a huge doll and the clothes of a baby, and gave them to her. She was at once quieted. She treated the doll as if it were alive, fed it, slept with it in her arms, worried over its diseases, ran to the neighbors to tell of its sayings and pretty ways. It was her child; God had given it to her at last. While she lived it kept her occupied and happy.

"But we cannot play this kindly trick upon all of these undedicated nuns.

"What is to be done for them?"

Mrs. Davis proceeds to suggest an answer to her question as follows:

"There is a part ready for them to play. From every town and camp and ranch in the West comes the demand for house-servants, nurses, teachers, and—wives. I heard last Spring of a clergyman who collected thirty respectable, modest New England girls, and sent them to a missionary in Montana, who at once found work for them. In six months every one of them was married—making, let us hope, a happy home and a happy life for some honest fellow. The good gospeler, I suspect, saved more souls by his little plan than by many sermons.

"Why should not others try the plan?"

"Why should not the philanthropic women in New England, who form associations to help the Czar take care of his lepers, and the South to settle her Negro problem, organize to find employment for these, their neighbors, out in the busy, living world?"

"And after that? Nothing need be done for them after that. Through wholesome work and intercourse with healthy-minded people they will soon find again what they have now entirely lost—their proper relations to their brother man and to God."

ACCORDING to the *Correspondenz*, Berlin, the attendance of Americans at German universities shows a slight falling-off during the present year. Only 361 Americans were entered, as against 428 last year. Our contingent nevertheless remains the largest of all foreign seekers of knowledge. The Swiss number 238, Austrians 210, Russians 351, Turkey and the Balkan countries 162, Scandinavians 24, Dutch 43, Belgians 39, British 138, French 27, Italians 26, Spanish Americans 32, Asiatics 66, Africans 6, and Australians 5. The Germans matriculated at the 22 universities of the Empire number 25,672.

BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

The Bank Statement.

The weekly statement of the Associated Banks showed large changes, due to the operations of the bond syndicate rather than to the interior currency movement and Sub-Treasury operations. Surplus reserve decreased \$5,189,850, and now stands at \$17,598,775. Loans contracted \$325,200, and deposits decreased \$9,473,400. Specie increased \$349,600, and legal tenders decreased \$7,907,800. Circulation increased \$182,000.

The call loan market at the Stock Exchange has been steady this week on a 2 per cent. basis, with extreme rates of $1\frac{1}{2}$ and $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. A fair amount of business has been done. In time loans demand is moderate, except for long dates. The supply is small, and rates are 3 a $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for sixty to ninety days, 4 a $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for four to five months, and 5 per cent. for six to seven months. There is a fair demand for commercial paper, but supply is not large. Some large city banks are out of the market for paper. Quotations are $3\frac{1}{4}$ a 4 per cent. for sixty to ninety-day indorsed bills receivable, $4\frac{1}{4}$ a 5 per cent. for four months' commission house names, $4\frac{1}{2}$ a 5 per cent. for prime four months' single names, 5 a $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for prime six months', and 6 a 7 per cent. for good four to six months' single names.

The following is a comparison of the averages of the New York banks for the last two weeks:

	March 16.	March 9.	Decrease.
Loans.....	\$489,004,000	\$489,329,200	\$325,200
Specie.....	67,573,600	67,224,000	349,600
Legal tenders.	79,649,300	87,557,100	7,907,800
Deposits.....	518,496,500	527,969,900	9,473,400
Circulation....	12,295,500	12,113,500	*182,000

* Increase.

—The Journal of Commerce, March 18.

Money and Business.

The slow gain in business continues, but attention of late is attracted more and more to its slowness. Since last August, when comparison began with the worst month of the panic, it has been possible to report every month some gain over last year, but this gain does not increase. Thus, exchanges through banks last August were 7.9 per cent. larger in daily average than in 1893, and in September 8.6 per cent. larger; in January the increase compared with last year was 8.6 per cent., and in March thus far 7.6 per cent. A more just comparison is with the corresponding months before the panic came. Last August the decrease compared with two years before was 21.7 per cent., and in September 24.4 per cent.; in January 29.4, and in March thus far 26.1 per cent. More than a quarter of the normal volume of business is still wanting, and since the first recovery from the panic the improvement has been surprisingly limited. With favoring influences in great number, the stoppage of gold exports, the success of the bond syndicate, the adjournment of Congress, the avoidance of many perils and the partial recovery of many industries, business nevertheless shows about the same shrinkage which appeared six or eight months ago. Sentiment has changed greatly, confidence has increased, but the volume of transactions gains but little.

The advance in wheat, cotton, corn and pork products has not been due to any increase in demand, but solely to reports about the present supplies or future crops. The Government report of wheat in farmers' hands March 1, of only 75,000,000 bushels, was not believed by anybody, but short sellers were each afraid that somebody else would believe it, and so hoisted the price by their rush to cover.—The Tribune, March 18.

AN ARTICLE OF MERIT.

On the second cover page of this issue of THE DIGEST, there is an announcement of the Ramey Mediator for Catarrh, Catarrhal Colds, etc. So many remedies have been offered that it is a pleasure to state that this one has the merit of being thoroughly rational and well-tested, and is fully guaranteed to do all that is claimed for it, or the money will be returned.

The little instrument conveys medicated air to all parts of the throat, head, and nasal passages, and has the endorsement of men and women of highest standing. It is manufactured by the Ramey Mediator Co., 85 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. Full particulars will be found in the advertisement, and THE DIGEST is assured that any readers who may not be entirely satisfied after ordering the instrument may have the money refunded promptly.

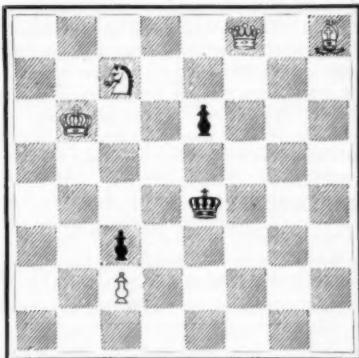
CHESS.

Problem 52.

A very charming prize-winner.

Black—Three Pieces.

K on K 5; Ps on K 3 and Q B 6.



White—Five Pieces.

K on Q Kt 6, Q on K B 8, B on K R 8, Kt on Q B 7, P on Q B 2.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

We will hold over the solution of No. 50 another week. Thus far, three different solutions have been received: Q—R 4; Q—R 5; Q—R 6. Q—R 5 will not do, for Black answers B—B 4. White must give check the next move, or Black plays Kt—B 7 ch, and stops mate in three.

Q—R 6 is "cooked" in this manner: Q—R 6, B—Kt 3; B—Q 3 ch, K—K 6, and White cannot mate next move. B—KB 4 will not mate, for Black plays K—B 7.

Correct solution of No. 49 has been received from J. H. Loudon, Bloomington, Ind.; the Revs. S. T. Thompson, Tarpon Springs, Fla., and F. H. Eggers, Great Falls, Mont.

The International Chess Match by cable between the Manhattan Chess Club, of New York City, and the British Chess Club, of London, was played on Saturday, March 9. The contestants were paired as follows:

Manhattan C. C.	British C. C.
S. Lipschütz.....	Table No. 1.....The Rev. D. Owen
J. M. Showalter.....	Table No. 2.....L. Hoffer
A. B. Hodges.....	Table No. 3.....C. D. Locock
D. G. Baird.....	Table No. 4.....W. Y. Mills
J. M. Hanham.....	Table No. 5.....F. W. Lord
J. S. Ryan.....	Table No. 6.....A. Guest
Dr. Isaacson.....	Table No. 7.....J. Mortimer
J. W. Baird.....	Table No. 8.....H. W. Trenchard
Dr. Simonson.....	Table No. 9.....J. T. Heppel
W. De Visser.....	Table No. 10.....A. Hunter

Umpires—Dr. Ballard and Prof. J. Rice.
Referee—Emanuel Lasker.
After seven hours' play only one game had been decided, that between D. G. Baird and W. J. Mills, which was a draw. It was arranged that all undecided games should be adjudicated by Mr. Lasker, but he found it impossible in the time allowed him to reach a just decision, as most of the games presented a complicated position. At his suggestion, therefore, the match was called a "draw," although the Englishmen admit that the American players in several games had a decided advantage. This is the first cable team match ever played.

Lasker has been playing recently in the Liverpool Club. On the first night, out of twenty-five games, he won twenty, lost two, and drew three; on the second night he vanquished nineteen strong players; on the following day he lost two games against two players in consultation.

Ex-Champion Steinitz is trying to make arrangements to play by cable ten games against Gunsberg, Mason, Blackburne, Teichmann, and Lasker.

It is an interesting fact that on Washington's Birthday, Chess tournaments were held in five States—New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Illinois.

LEGAL.

Garnishee—Exempt from Payment of Interest.

An Ohio Court has recently held that a garnishee is exempt from paying interest on the money garnished in his hands when it appears that he is holding the money as trustee for the person entitled to it, and without using it or deriving any benefit from so holding it.—Cincinnati N. & C. R. Co. v. Wood, 33 Weekly L. Bull., 198.

Safety of Children on Street-Cars.

The Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia, in the case of Metropolitan R. Co. v. Falvey, hold that a street-car company, as a common carrier of passengers for hire, is bound to exercise the utmost care and caution to avoid the occurrence of accidents, and to provide cars and appliances for the safe transportation of all conditions of people entitled to be carried, infants as well as adults. While a car may be safe for an adult person, it may not be safe for the conveyance of children of tender years. Chief-Justice Alney, who writes the opinion of the Court, says: "It may be very true that the car in which this accident occurred was in all respects entirely safe for the carriage of adult passengers. But the obligation of the defendant as a common carrier of passengers for hire requires more than that. It requires the carrier, by the exercise of the greatest care and precaution against the occurrence of accidents, to provide cars and appliances for the safe transportation of all conditions of people entitled to be carried. The old and the young are alike entitled to be carried safely. And while a car may be safe for an adult person, it may not be safe for the conveyance of children of tender years."

"In the case of The Pennsylvania Company v. Roy, 102 United States, 451, the rule is laid down by the Supreme Court of the United States with great clearness and emphasis, that governs in the case of an accident to a passenger while being carried by a common carrier. In that case it was held that a carrier of passengers for hire is bound to observe the utmost caution, and is responsible to them for such injuries received in the course of their transportation as might have been avoided or guarded against by the exercise of extraordinary vigilance, aided by the highest skill. And that such caution and vigilance extend to all the appliances and means used by him in transporting them. He must, therefore, provide cars or vehicles adequate, that is, sufficiently secure as to strength and other requisites, for their safe conveyance, and he is liable in damages if, by reason of the slightest negligence or fault in that regard, injury results to a passenger. In that case, the doctrine laid down in the well-known case of

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Stokes v. Saltonstall, 13 Pet., 181, was expressly reaffirmed, as it had been in the previous case of Railroad Co. v. Pollard, 22 Wall., 341.—23 Wash. L. Rep., 53.

What is a Monopoly?

Chief-Justice Fuller, who writes the opinion of the Court in the case of the United States v. Spreckles' Sugar Refining Co., *et al.*, deals with the definition of the word "monopoly." He says: "In commenting upon the statute, 21 James I., chapter 3, at the commencement of chapter 83 of the third institute, entitled 'Against Monopolists, Propounders and Projectors,' Lord Coke, in language often quoted, said: 'It appeareth by the preamble of this act (as a judgment in Parliament) that all grants of monopolies are against the ancient and fundamental laws of this kingdom. And therefore it is necessary to define what a monopoly is. A monopoly is an institution, or allowance by the King, by his grant, commission, or otherwise, to any person or persons, bodies politique, or corporate, of or for the sole buying, selling, making, working or using of anything, whereby any person or persons, bodies politique or corporate, are sought to be restrained of any freedom or liberty that they had before, or hindered in their lawful trade.' Counsel contend that this definition, as explained by the derivation of the word, may be applied to all cases in which 'one person sells alone the whole of any kind of marketable thing, so that only he can continue to sell it, fixing the price at his own pleasure,' whether by virtue of legislative grant or agreement; that the monopolization referred to in the act of Congress is not confined to the common-law sense of the term as implying an exclusive control by authority of one branch of industry without legal right of any other person to interfere therewith by competition or otherwise, but that it includes engrossing as well, and covers controlling the market by contracts securing the advantage of selling alone or exclusively all or some considerable portion of a particular kind of merchandise or commodity to the detriment of the public; and that such contracts amount to that restraint of trade or commerce declared to be illegal. But the monopoly and restraint denounced by the act are the monopoly and restraint of interstate and international trade or commerce, while the conclusion to be assumed on this record is that the result of the transaction complained of was the creation of a monopoly in the manufacture of a necessary of life."—51 Albany L. J., 133.

Bank Stock Transfer—Lien for Debt Due from Holder.

The Circuit Court of Appeals, in the case of Bank of Commerce v. Bank of Newport, declares that—1. Although bank-stock certificates recite that the shares are transferable only on the books of the bank on their surrender, a bank which does not adopt or use that mode of transfer is not estopped from claiming a lien on the stock for the debts due to it from a firm, as against a subsequent vendee and indorsee of said certificates, who took them from such firm. Judge Thayer, in the course of the opinion, says:

"It is very generally held, and it may be accepted as the established view, that a provision that shares of stock shall be transferable only on the books of the corporation, in person or by attorney, on the surrender of the old certificate properly indorsed, is a provision intended primarily for the benefit of the corporation, to enable it to preserve an authentic record of its shareholders, and thereby to deal safely and intelligently with its members, in the matter of paying dividends, giving notice of corporate meetings, and in all other matters relating to the internal affairs and the government of the corporation. Incidentally, no doubt, a provision of that kind is also intended to preserve a record of the ownership of stock, to which

third parties may resort when they have occasion to purchase or otherwise deal in the stock of the corporation. It has never been supposed, however, that a stipulation of that nature, whether it is contained in the charter or the by-laws, operates as a prohibition against other modes of transfer. Such provisions are merely cumulative. They provide a particular mode of transfer, on which the corporation or its assignee may insist, before the shareholder is released from any of his obligations as a member of the company; but as between the shareholder and his vendee a good title to stock may doubtless be conveyed by a simple indorsement and delivery of the certificate, or by a bill of sale, or any other conveyance which is adequate to transfer the title to any other species of personal property.

"It is a well-known fact that thousands of shares of stock are daily transferred from hand to hand by a simple delivery of the stock certificates after they have been indorsed in blank by the registered shareholder, and no doubt can be entertained that, as between the parties to such transactions, a good title is conveyed. Johnston v. Laffin, 103 U. S., 800, 804; Spring Co. v. Harris, 20 Mo., 382, 388; Railroad Co. v. Schuyler, 34 N. Y., 37, 80; American Nat. Bank v. Oriental Mills, 17 R. I., 551, 557, 558, 23 Atl., 795; Fisher v. Jones, 82 Ala., 117, 122, 3 South, 13; Robinson v. Bank, 95 N. Y., 637; Haegle v. Manufacturing Co., 29 Mo., App. 486, 492; Cook, Stock, Stockh. & Corp. Law, §§ 378, 379, and cases there cited. It follows, no doubt, from what has been said, that a vendee of stock may have a good title thereto, as against his vendor, although he has not been accepted as a member of the company, and although the vendor has not been released from his obligations as a member or shareholder. This is the necessary result of the doctrine that the corporation is entitled to insist upon the mode of transfer specified in its charter or prescribed by its by-laws, if the method prescribed is reasonable, and does not impose unnecessary restrictions upon the right of the member to sell. We think, however, that it is not true, as seems to be contended in the case at bar, that a mode of transfer provided by the charter or by-laws of a corporation must be in all respects strictly pursued, before the title of the vendee of stock is complete as against the corporation. Considering the fact that a regulation requiring a transfer of stock on the books of the company, and a surrender of the old certificate, is intended primarily for the benefit and advantage of the corporation, we think that it is competent for the corporation to waive a strict observance of prescribed forms, and to admit the vendee of stock to full membership in the corporation without a literal compliance with such regulations. So much, at least, has already been decided."—9 Corporation Law Journal, 529.

Husband and Wife—Conveyance by Husband of Land Held in Common.

The Court of Appeals of New York has recently passed upon an important question, touching the estate a vendee takes under a conveyance by the husband of lands held by him and his wife in common. The Court holds that where title to land, paid for by the wife, is, with her consent, taken in the name of herself and husband, they hold as tenants in common or joint tenants of the use during their joint lives; and a mortgage thereof by the husband and a foreclosure of it pass his interest only, the grantee becoming a tenant in common with the wife during the joint lives of husband and wife, and owner in fee in case the husband survives the wife.—Hites v. Fischer, 39 N. E. Rep., 336.

Accounting of Administrator—Speculative Business.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court says in Shire's Estate that where an executor uses certain funds of the estate for the purpose of continuing a speculative business in which the deceased was engaged, he will be surcharged with any losses thereby occurring to the estate.—30 Atl. Rep., 1026.

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Current Events.

Monday, March 11.

The argument on the constitutionality of the Income-Tax Law is continued before the United States Supreme Court. . . . Secretary Carlisle issues an order releasing the Union Pacific branch-roads from liability for the Union Pacific debt. . . . Thirteen of the sixty-three internal revenue districts of the country make reports under the Income-Tax Law, entitling the Government to collect \$6,805,39. . . . Ex-President Harrison is improving.

Great excitement prevails in Spain over the Cuban revolt. . . . Colombian insurgents are defeated, and Garza, their leader, is killed; the United States cruiser *Raleigh* arrives at Colon. . . . The Peruvian rebels defeat the Government troops. . . . Dressmaker Worth, of Paris, dies.

Tuesday, March 12.

Negro cotton-handlers are attacked by a white mob in New Orleans; three men are killed and several wounded; the militia is ordered to be in readiness. . . . The income-tax case is argued before the United States Supreme Court. . . . The Colombian Line steamer *Allianca* reports upon coming to the port of New York that she had been fired upon by a Spanish gunboat in the Windward Passage, on March 8, without just cause; investigation will be made by the State Department.

Ex-Queen Liliuokalani is sentenced to five years' imprisonment for complicity in the revolt against the Republic of Hawaii. . . . Several leaders of the Cuban insurgents surrender to the Government. . . . Martial law is proclaimed in Panama. . . . The resignation of Lord Rosebery is again rumored in London.

Wednesday, March 13.

The closing arguments are made in the income-tax suits before the Supreme Court. . . . Seven coal-carrying railroads in the Hocking Valley district of Ohio form a pool to regulate prices. . . . The wounding of an English subject in the New Orleans riot is made the subject of a formal complaint by the British Ambassador; the rioting is not renewed; eight of the rioters are arrested. . . . The bill for the revival of the whipping-post is defeated in the New York Assembly. . . . The Haverhill shoe strike is ended; the men return to work on the old terms. . . . No action is taken by the State Department in the *Allianca* affair. . . . Several Italian prisoners are lynched in Colorado.

The Chinese peace envoys leave for Hiroshima. . . . The Government troops in Cuba defeat another band of insurgents. . . . It is feared that a Spanish cruiser went down in a gale off Tangier, with 420 people on board.

Thursday, March 14.

The State Department demands from Spain an explanation or apology for the firing on the *Allianca*. . . . Work is resumed on the levee at New Orleans under protection of police and militia; more trouble is feared. . . . The New York Assembly passes a resolution in favor of submitting a constitutional amendment for woman suffrage to the popular vote. . . . A mass meeting is held in New York in favor of Sunday opening of saloons; Rev. Drs. Rainsford and Rylance are among the speakers.

Sir William Harcourt is a candidate for Speaker of the House of Commons. . . . The Italian Government is satisfied with the action of the United States in the case of the Italian lynchings in Colorado.

Friday, March 15.

Secretary Gresham instructs our Minister at Madrid to demand an apology and reparation from the Spanish Government for the insult to our flag in the *Allianca* affair. . . . Negro cotton-handlers work on the New Orleans water-front under protection of troops. . . . The General Term of the New York Supreme Court reverses the action of the Police Board in removing Captain Cross on testimony of disreputable witnesses, and orders his reinstatement. . . . Erasmus Wiman, convicted of forgery last Summer, is granted a new trial.

The Cuban insurrection is progressing to the satisfaction of the leaders in Jamaica. . . . The fate of the *Reina Regente* is not ascertained.

Saturday, March 16.

President Cleveland returns to Washington from his trip to the North Carolina sounds. . . . Lives and property are lost in storms in Alabama. . . . Some of the building strikers in New York, resume work under the old terms.

The *Allianca* affair is discussed in the Cortes at Madrid; the Foreign Minister promises that all the demands of justice would be satisfied after due inquiry. . . . Army officers sack newspaper offices in Madrid for severely criticizing the army; the publishers demand protection and threaten to suspend publication. . . . Two hundred thousand bootmakers in England are on strike.

Sunday, March 17.

Governor McIntire, of Colorado, offers \$1,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of the lynchers of Italians at Walsenburg; the State Department at Washington commends his action.

The Spanish Ministry resigns in consequence of the difficulty between the Press and the army officers.

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to the propagator of a new theory. No great discovery or invention was ever made that did not have to meet and overcome the active or passive opposition of scientists and other learned men. The fact that a thing is new is generally enough to condemn it. Condemnation comes first—investigation afterward. Galileo, Columbus, Jenner and Morse all had to fight. Each was met with incredulity and ridicule. In olden times a man with a new idea was stoned or burned at the stake. That is not done now. They merely pooh-pooh his theory, brand him as a humbug, and dismiss his case without investigation and without argument. Medical progress, in particular, has always been made in the face of the most violent opposition from the medical fraternity. Quinine only secured its place after a thirty years' struggle. The man who first thought of using anæsthetics was hooted at, ridiculed and persecuted in Boston not more than thirty years ago. To-day, there is not a physician or dentist in America that does not use them constantly in his practise. The Electropoise has met with the same opposition. When we affirm that this simple little instrument, if applied to the body under proper conditions, WILL POLARIZE IT AND CAUSE THE ABSORPTION OF OXYGEN FROM THE AIR THROUGH THE PORES OF THE SKIN, these learned men exclaim in a breath, "Nonsense." Notwithstanding their estimable opinion, this is a fact. By this new method of applying that great vitalizer—oxygen—the Electropoise can, has and does cure disease without medicine and oftentimes when the most approved remedies have failed. An explanation of the theory, with results actually accomplished, cannot be given here, but we will be glad to mail our booklet to any reader of this paper who will apply for it.



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Prof. Frederick Bedell, of Cornell University, prepared the definition and tables. The publishers expect to have charts of these tables made for use in the schoolroom, which will be supplied at a nominal price.

"R." Boston: "Some time ago an article appeared in one of our prominent daily papers which conveyed the impression that the Standard Dictionary omits a very important geographical definition under the word *bifurcate*. Will you inform me what its peculiar geographical meaning is?"

The Standard Dictionary defines *bifurcate* as a run-in vocabulary word under its combining prefix *bi-*. The definitions of the word cover all the senses in which it is used in the many authorities in our library. The word was referred to the U. S. Geological Survey at Washington. A member of the Survey writes: "I cannot recall any special use of this word by geographers." It is possible by extension to use the word in the sense quoted by the press.

DR. "B." Observatory: "I am pleased with the mathematical definitions, and in fact with all the definitions of the Standard Dictionary except the definition of *to square a circle*. I am surprised to see the Standard in respect to this phrase take an unwarranted position, since this problem has been fully and exactly solved. Evidently your mathematical editors, who are second to none, committed an unwarranted blunder in defining this phrase."

In a letter to the publisher, Simon Newcomb, LL.D., Professor of Mathematics, Johns Hopkins University, and Superintendent of the Nautical Almanac, Navy Department, Washington, D.C., also Chief Editor of the Department of Mathematics of the Standard Dictionary, says: "I am surprised that Dr. B. should take such a view of the case. I should think that two considerations would be decisive to any person of good sense. The first is the improbability that a problem on which the mathematicians of many centuries have worked in vain would at last be solved by a man totally unknown in the mathematical world (the authority which Dr. B. quoted in his letter), and presumably with no acquaintance beyond the elements of the subject. The second consideration is that pure mathematics differs from all other sciences, in that its conclusions are rigorous, and never subject to alteration through all generations. The conclusion of astronomers, physicists, and observers and experimenters of every sort are subject, to a greater or less extent, to be revised. But the demonstration of all mathematicians from Euclid down to our day form an integral and unchangeable part of the science. Now, the demonstration of what is called *squaring the circle* is impossible is just as sound as any other proposition in mathematics."

"C. I.": If you will turn to Standard Dictionary, page 2305, 3d column, you will find that XIII. is a correct reference. The pronunciation of *sloth* is given with the preferred pronunciations of eight of the leading dictionaries and also that of the members of the committee of philologists and other scholars.

"H. B.," Norwich, Conn.: After the description of Ober-Ammergau the abbreviation *p.* is not that of *page*, but the abbreviation of *population*. See

page 2110 for abbreviations used in glossary of proper names.

"A Possible Purchaser": "In my morning paper, in an interesting article, I came across the word *Behistun* and was naturally anxious to know its meaning. I turned to Webster's International and failed to find it. I then looked in the Century and it was not there. Will the publishers of the Standard tell me if the word is in the Standard and what it means?"

BEHISTUN, page 182, Standard Dictionary, is defined as follows: "A mountain in Persian Kurdistan, made famous by the cuneiform inscriptions of Darius engraved on it in three languages, Persian, Babylonian, and so-called Median. The inscriptions were copied and partially deciphered by Rawlinson. Diodorus calls the mountain Bagistanon. Bagha is the Persian name for God, stana for place."

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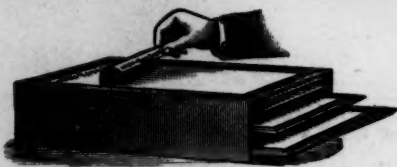
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